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THE DEMOCRATIC SWINDLE

STILL HOPING FOR A PEACEFUL ENDING.

REPORT THAT THE GOVERNOR WILL NOT SUBMIT THE QUESTIONS TO THE SUPREME COURT—PREPARING TO PRESERVE ORDER IN AUGUSTA—ABOUT THE REPORTED REMOVAL OF ARMS.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 29.—It is the general opinion that Gov. Garcelon will not submit to the Supreme Court the questions propounded by ex-Gov. Morrill. The Republicans will be prepared for this, and will present the question through a majority of the members of the last Senate, as it is thought such proceedings would conform with the law. The disposition is to exhaust every legal means before others are tried. C. D. Baker applied this forenoon at the Secretary of State's office for authority to examine the returns from Farmington. He was answered by Councilor Fogg in the negative, which was accompanied by a profane epithet.

The Governor sent for the Mayor this afternoon to consult him in regard to a proper Police force for preserving order on the reassembling of the Legislature. The Mayor had just finished writing a communication to the Governor on the subject, and conveyed it in person. He assured the Governor that all needed preparations had been made for keeping the peace. Two hundred policemen had already been appointed, and this number would be increased if the exigencies of the case required it. The Mayor said he was able to keep order, and begged the Governor not to bring troops to the capital or make preparations for arming them. He said he thought the people of Augusta would bear him out in these assurances. The Governor talked quite freely, and informed the Mayor that he had a great dislike of the idea of bringing troops here, and should not do it if peace could be maintained in any other way, but if would be his duty to preserve order and prevent interference with the members of the Legislature. The interview closed here, and the Mayor handed the Governor the following communication:

CITY OF AUGUSTA, MAYOR'S OFFICE, Dec. 29.
To His Excellency Alonzo Garcelon, Governor of Maine.

SIR: The excited condition of the public mind concerning the Legislature that is soon to assemble induces me to address your Excellency upon a matter of grave public moment. The people of Augusta are loyal to the legally-constituted authorities of the State in the exercise of every lawful act and duty, and would feel great pain and mortification at any lawless act or lack of decorum on the part of an excited populace in connection with the organization of the Legislature, and I am warranted in hereby tendering to the State the service of hundreds of sworn policemen, should a force unhappily be needed for the keeping of peace in the Capitol itself or elsewhere in the city. Our city has increased its police force to 200 good men of different political parties, and these, and any necessary number additional, are at the State's disposal to carry out any request which the State authorities will communicate to me. Touching the maintenance of order and the complete preservation of public peace, I cannot refrain from expressing the hope that your Excellency will feel justified in relying upon the services of our citizens thus freely tendered, and by so doing will see no necessity for calling out troops to perform the same duty. Your Excellency will pardon me for suggesting that the occupation of the State-house by armed men, or the placing of war material therein, will tend to disturb the public mind.

The approaching Legislature is the fiftieth that has assembled in that building in as many consecutive years, and never before, even in the excitement of civil war, with thousands of troops encamped near by, has it required the services of a single policeman to preserve order. It is to be hoped that it may always be open to the ingress and egress of all well-behaved citizens, and I trust that your Excellency will see that the character of the building in that regard is sacredly maintained. The great aversion of the people to any other course is sufficiently witnessed by the recent resistance in Bangor to the movement of war material supposed to be destined for the State-house. That incident, in connection with the many suggestions in the public prints, has induced me to address this letter to your Excellency. Your Excellency will perceive that if one party to a controversy shall arm, the other will do well to do likewise, and serious and a conflict might ensue which all would deeply deplore. I feel confident that if no troops are called out by the State authorities, no bodies of armed men will come to the Capitol on the assembling of the Legislature, and the civil Police of our city will be ample competent to deal with all cases of individual riot or disorder that may arise.

With great respect your obedient servant,
CHARLES E. NASH, Mayor.

The Governor remarked that he would take the matter into consideration.

It is stated upon good authority that the Governor has decided not to submit to the Supreme Court the questions propounded by Senator Merrill, though the decision may not be written before to-morrow. His reasons for not submitting them are that most of the points have already been adjudicated upon, and that there would not be an opportunity legally to organize the Legislature if the decision of the court were awaited, as certificates must be issued to members 20 days before the assembling of the Legislature. The Governor also claims that he has no right to withdraw the certificates already issued; and, since each house is judge of its own elections, if there are wrongs they can be righted.

The Governor continues to receive numerous petitions from all parts of the State praying that the law points involved may be referred to the Supreme Court. There were received to-day from Winslow a petition headed by the Hon. David Garland, and signed by 75 others; from Sullivan a petition signed by Eugene Simpson and 29 others; from New-Portland, a petition signed by John W. Norton and 92 others; from Topsham, a petition signed by Robert P. Whitney and 106 others.

GARDINER, Me., Dec. 29.—On reading the statement in this morning's *Globe* that Capt. Berry, of the Richards Light Infantry, had arrangements made to remove the arms of the company from the armory on Sunday night to some place where he could command their use, and also that he openly avows his intention to refuse to obey any summons to turn his command out for the service of the State if Gov. Garcelon calls upon him to do so, a correspondent called upon Capt. Berry to ascertain if the statements were true. Capt. Berry declared the statements without foundation. He said that he had been spending Christmas in Boston, and on his arrival Sunday morning he was met at the depot by his Orderly Sergeant, who said that he, with a few men, were watching the armory, so that no unauthorized persons might remove the arms. This was done without any orders, the Captain having given no orders to any officer or private, either before or during his absence, and was simply a precaution taken by the Orderly Sergeant, who knew the Captain to be responsible personally for all the State property in his possession. The arms were still in the armory, and had never been moved. He stated furthermore that he had never expressed any opinion whatever as to what he would or would not do in future, and should not do so until orders were received. Though a Republican in politics, he understood his duties as a soldier, and regretted that any such sensational and pernicious story should have been given to the public.

A statement that the "talk indulged in by the ministers has created more excitement in Gardiner than anything else," is contradicted. Hard feeling exists among a few in consequence, but there is nothing like general excitement. The citizens of Gardiner as a whole seem to be quietly awaiting the result of the meeting of the Legislature next week.

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 29.—Capt. Lynch, of the Montgomery Guards, has given notice to his men to be ready to march at an instant's notice, which fact leads to the inference that the Guards and the Light Infantry will be mailed in Augusta.

BANGOR, Dec. 29.—Adjt.-Gen. S. D. Leavitt arrived here to-day, and this evening Joseph L. Smith, the Fusion candidate for Governor; Sheriff Stratton, of Penobscot County; Gerham L. Boynton, Congressman Ladd, J. P. Bass, of the *Commercial*, and other prominent Fusionists, have been at his hotel. It is supposed in conference with the Adjutant-General. It is rumored that a telegram was received by the Sheriff to-day from Gov. Garcelon, and it is reported that the conference is in relation to the arms at the State Arsenal, and that they will be removed to Augusta to-morrow. The report from Augusta that the Governor would probably decline to refer the questions proposed by Mr. Morrill to the court caused much disapprobation here, especially among prominent Democrats who signed the petition for that action.

SUPPORTING THE SWINDLE.

GOV. GARCELON REITERATES HIS EXPLANATION AT A MEETING AT BELFAST.

BELFAST, Me., Dec. 29.—Hayford Hall was packed to its utmost capacity this evening, in response to a call for a "law and order" meeting to sustain the Governor and Council. The meeting was called to order by William F. Colburn, and the following officers were chosen: Chairman—The Hon. William H. Rust; Vice-Presidents—C. B. Haseltine, W. H. Burrill, and George R. Sleeper, of Belfast; Crosby Fowler, of Unity; William Berry, of Burnham; D. K. Drake, of Jackson; E. C. Freeman, of Lincolnville; W. R. Pendleton, of Islesboro'; F. A. Dickey, of Northport; Joseph Park, of Searsport; John Heagan, of Stockton; Thomas Storer, of Morrill, and James Bicknell, of Belmont; Secretary—Lucien H. Murch; Committee on Resolutions—W. H. McLellan, George E. Wallace, Joseph Williamson, R. W. Ellis, F. H. Durham. Mr. Rust addressed the meeting in a brief speech, and read abstracts from various speeches made at recent Republican meetings, and claimed that they were revolutionary in character. He was very severe upon the Republicans, and accused them of carrying the recent election by wholesale bribery. He said Tweed and his Ring were no more corrupt than are James G. Blaine and his Ring to-day.

Gov. Garcelon was received with loud applause. He said that he had not come to the meeting to make an apology for anything he had done or left undone. He spoke of the recent election, and of rumors current soon after it took place in regard to the counting of the votes. He said that prominent Republicans had then said that the law of 1877 was clearly unconstitutional, and named the Hon. William P. Frye as one of the number. He gave a full explanation of the constitutional requirements in regard to the duty of town officers, and of the Governor and Council, as to the election returns. When the returns were laid before the Legislature they would in every instance be found correctly tabulated. He claimed that the returns were canvassed strictly in accordance with the Constitution and laws and without regard to one party or the other. He spoke of the Republican committee who visited him at the beginning of the canvass, and said that he then told the committee that he himself had never yet seen a single one of the returns. For the past few weeks the most abominable lies had been daily sent forth in regard to the counting of the votes. The returns from some of the large cities were fatally defective, and the Governor and Council had nothing to do in regard to them but to strictly follow the requirements of the Constitution and the laws. The Legislature would undoubtedly do justice by the cities not represented, as the two branches were judges of the election of their own members.

The Governor spoke particularly of the Portland returns, and claimed that they agreed strictly with the record, and therefore could not be amended, even under the law of 1877. The Danforth District was next spoken of, and the Governor made a statement in regard to the returns from that town. He said the record had been altered long after the election at the request of George A. Curran, of Calais, who said he had the letter of the Town Clerk of Danforth in his pocket, stating that he had changed his record under orders from the Republican Board of Selectmen. The Governor said all the returns would be presented to the Legislature on the 7th of January, unless the State-house was seized by a mob and the returns destroyed previous to that time. He challenged any man to put his finger on a single thing he had done which was not strictly in accordance with the Constitution, the laws, and precedents. At the close of his speech the Governor was loudly applauded, and three cheers were given for him.

The Hon. William H. McLellan, Attorney-General, next addressed the meeting. He commenced by referring to the clergymen who had spoken at the indignation meeting on Saturday evening, and said they had made many false statements. He denied emphatically the statement that has been made that he had advised the Governor not to submit the questions in dispute to the Supreme Court, as requested by the Hon. Lot M. Morrill. He said it ill became Republicans to make such a great ado about the recent count of the vote in this State, when they all upheld the counting out of Tilden in 1876. At the same time, he said, he did not attempt to justify anything wrong on that account, but no man could name a single wrong that had been done in regard to the recent canvass of the votes in this State.

The Hon. A. G. Jewett then spoke briefly. He attacked the law of 1877 relating to the correction of returns, and said it was against the clear provisions of the Constitution, and should not be obeyed. He advised the people not to support or attend any church at which politics were preached. The Republicans had attempted to carry the election in this State by bribery, but, happily, had been checkmated by the Governor and Council. A dispatch from Augusta was read, which was signed by the Hon. C. F. Pillsbury and 560 others, also a letter from the Hon. J. D. Lamson, Senator from this county. Resolutions were then read and adopted. They condemn bribery at elections, and say that no claimant ought rightfully be inducted into an office obtained through such means, and pledge support to the Governor and Council in all constitutional and legal acts. Speeches were made by the Hon. R. W. Ellis and Capt. Charles Baker, and the meeting closed with three cheers for Gov. Garcelon.

PORTLAND, Me., Dec. 29.—The Democrats and Greenbackers will hold a meeting to-morrow night in this city. The call invites all citizens in favor of sustaining constitutional and legal measures in the execution of the laws of the State, and the preservation of peace.

GEN. BUTLER GIVES HIS VIEWS.

HE THINKS GOV. GARCELON COULD NOT HAVE ACTED OTHERWISE UNDER THE LAWS.

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—Gen. B. F. Butler has stated to a reporter his views on the situation in Maine. He contradicts the statement that has been made in some quarters that he has given Gov. Garcelon and Council legal advice on the course they have taken. He had never been asked to advise about that matter. He does not see how the Governor and Council could have acted otherwise than they have, and strictly followed the Constitution and laws. "The Governor is not a Judge," Gen. Butler is reported as having said, "nor are he and the Council a returning board, but simply a canvassing board. They are to ascertain who appear to be elected from the returns certified to them under the provisions of the Constitution and laws. Whether the defects discovered are amendable or unamendable under the laws, I don't know. Most of them would seem to be amendable by the final judge, the Legislature."

Gen. Butler thinks the only way for the Republicans to meet the situation is by legal, constitutional means. In response to the question as to whether the Maine Legislature can choose the seven Presidential Electors next year, Gen. Butler said: "Certainly; that is provided for by the Constitution of the United States, which says the Electors are to be chosen in any way the Legislature may appoint." Gen. Butler does not believe there will be any fighting in Maine; he thinks there is too much common sense. He sees no parallel between the action of the Louisiana Returning Board of 1876 and the present condition of affairs in Maine. "The difference is very observable; in Louisiana the Returning Board claimed and exercised the power of counting votes not thrown, which they said ought to have been thrown, whereas in Maine the Governor only decides he has no power to judge between the electors and the elected, except upon legal evidence brought before him, and then his act is not judicial but simply ministerial."

SALE OF ELECTRIC LIGHT PATENTS.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 29.—Charles F. Brush, of Cleveland, has just sold his English patents for electric-lighting apparatus to a large incorporated company in London for £30,000.

THE TAY BRIDGE CALAMITY

NO ONE LEFT TO TELL HOW THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED.

THE TRAIN PRECIPITATED 88 FEET BEFORE REACHING THE WATER—ALL THE CENTRAL SPANS OF THE BRIDGE GONE—THE NUMBER OF LIVES LOST BELIEVED TO BE NINETY—ONLY ONE BODY RECOVERED.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The train on the North British Railway, which was precipitated into the Frith of Tay by the breaking of the Tay bridge, left Edinburgh Sunday afternoon at 4:15 o'clock, and consisted of four cars of the third class, one of the first class, one of the second class, and a brakeman's van. Whether the girders of the bridge were carried away by the hurricane which was prevailing, before the train entered upon the bridge, or whether the girders and the train went down together, is not, and probably never will be, known, as there are no survivors to tell the story of the disaster. One account says that the portion of the bridge which fell consisted of several large superincumbent girders at the central and navigable portion of the river, which averages from 40 to 45 feet in depth. The train must have fallen about 88 feet before reaching the water. Another dispatch says that the 13 girders of the long central spans are all gone, while still another report says that the gap, which is nearly half a mile in width, comprises 11 of the longest spans, each 245 feet in length, and one span 145 feet in length.

The damage to the telegraph wires on the bridge, and the severity of the weather, have interfered materially with the transmission of full accounts of the accident. Indeed, considerable time elapsed before the nature of the catastrophe was ascertained by those nearest the scene. Vast quantities of wreckage, such as the roofs and doors of railway carriages, pieces of the bridge, and articles of wearing apparel are being washed ashore, but as yet no bodies have been recovered. The Provost of Dundee, and a party of citizens who started on a steam-boat for the scene of the disaster as soon as the news was received, made a thorough search in small boats about the bridge, in the hope of rescuing some of the passengers on the ill-fated train, but no trace of any survivors was found.

In regard to the number of lives lost, there are many accounts, and all of them conflict each with the other. Dispatches sent from Edinburgh early this morning stated that there were nearly 300 passengers on the train, besides the company's servants, and that all were believed to have perished. This statement, however, is probably an exaggeration. A later dispatch, without stating the number supposed to have been killed, says that at the last station before the train went on the bridge, the tickets were collected, and that the train was then crowded. This evening the railway authorities estimate the total number of lives lost at 75, while a dispatch to the Press Association places the number at not more than 90. The latest information on this subject thus far received is a telegram from Dundee, which states that only 56 passenger tickets were taken up at the last stopping-place; but these do not account for the number of young children requiring no tickets, nor for the number of railway employes, nor for the number of passengers for Broughty Ferry, whose tickets were not taken up. However, if this statement is correct, it is evident that the loss of life has been greatly overestimated.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The Government has sent two Inspectors to ascertain the particulars of the Tay Bridge disaster, and has also directed a formal inquiry into the occurrence. Divers have thus far been unable to discover the wrecked train. They will make another effort to-day. The place where the train sank is full of quicksands, and if the bodies of the drowned are not recovered within a few days they will become imbedded with the cars beyond recovery. Only one body has so far been recovered, and that in a badly-mutilated condition.

The Queen has telegraphed to the Provost of Dundee, tendering her condolence with the bereaved.

Various accounts agree in placing the total loss of life by the Tay disaster at 90.

THE GREAT TAY BRIDGE.

The Tay Bridge crosses the Frith of that name at the west end of the Town of Dundee. It was built under the auspices of the North British Railway Company, but as a separate undertaking, with a capital of $1,750,000; and though there were many predictions that there would not be enough traffic to pay the cost of the enormous structure, it is believed that the bridge has proved so far a financial success. The Frith of Tay, where the bridge crosses it, is about two miles wide. Previous to the opening of the bridge, passengers going to Dundee from the south by the North British Line had to be ferried across the Tay from a point opposite the city on the south shore. This was costly, slow, disagreeable, and sometimes, on account of severe storms, dangerous. Travelers desiring to avoid this had to reach Dundee by the circuitous Perth route, near which city a bridge crosses the river at a comparatively narrow part of it. The North British Company determined to bridge the two miles of estuary if engineering skill were equal to the task. It was a gigantic undertaking, not only on account of the wide stretch of water which had to be spanned without obstructing navigation, but because the Tay has strong tidal currents, and the wind sweeps down it with terrible violence. Parliamentary authority was obtained for the construction of the bridge in 1870; the contract was made in May, 1871, and the foundation stone was laid on the south side on the 22d of July of the same year. The designer of the bridge was the engineer of the North British Railway Company, Mr. (now Sir) Thomas Bouch. In the construction of the bridge many improvements on former methods were introduced. The chief of these was the dispensing with the usual staging and scaffolding, by erecting the piers and girders on shore, and floating them out to their destination. Cylinders of iron and brick-work, with a diameter of 9½ feet, built on shore in such lengths as would reach from the rock on which they were intended to rest, to a point above low-water level, each consisting of a cast-iron shell with a lining of brick-work, set in Portland cement, were connected by a wall of brick-work, about 5 feet wide, thus placing a space of 12 feet wide between their centres. The whole being then made fast to a system of strong iron girders, barges were introduced at low tide underneath the girders, so that when the tide rose, the ponderous mass was lifted bodily and floated out to its place. Having been towed out to the spot where it was to rest, the cylinders were lowered by hydraulic apparatus till they rested on the river bed. Workmen then descended in the hollow shafts of the cylinders and excavated the material from beneath, thereby causing them to sink to the bed-rock. Owing to the sudden shelving of the rock toward the middle of the river, under beds of clay, sand, and gravel, it became impracticable to sink the piers to the rock, and a new method had to be introduced. It will be noted that all that part of the bridge which has given way is over the middle of the stream, where it may be assumed that the piers were not sunk to the rock. Here, by the new method, one great cylinder filled with concrete was used instead of two, as elsewhere. The cylinder was sunk in the usual way by means of a sand-pump, until it reached a depth of 18 feet below the river bed, where, the top being removed, a smooth surface was presented on which to place the superstructure. This, up to low water-mark, was of brick-work, also built on shore and floated out; above low water-mark the brick-work was continued in the ordinary way up to high water-mark, where four courses of stone finished off this portion of the work. The piers of 14 spans of the bridge were finished in this way, the upper works being formed of iron columns 12 and 15 inches in diameter. When all the piers had been raised to the necessary height, the girders were towed out, and raised to their places by hydraulic apparatus. Two girders, connected by transverse braces, go to each span, the depths varying according to the width of the space to be crossed. The length of the spans diminishes in going toward the shores on either side of the navigable channel. To allow for the expansion by heat, which amounts to seven feet for the whole length of the bridge, the girders were so adjusted to the piers as to allow a certain amount of free play. The bridge has 85 spans, varying in length from 67 to 245 feet; those of the largest size, to the number of 13, being placed over the navigable portion of the river. In this central section, where it was necessary to provide for the passage of shipping, the bridge has a clear height of 88 feet above high water, from which it slopes down to the Fife, or south side, with a gradient of 1 in 356, no greater being necessary because the bank here is high. On the Dundee side, owing to the necessity of entering Dundee underground, the gradient is 1 in 75. For the purpose of making its shore connections, the bridge had to be built with a double curve, so that it resembles a gigantic letter S. In the 13 great spans of the structure the rails were laid on the bottom of the girders; on the other spans they were laid on the top, the piers of the central portions being raised in such a way as to bring the bottom of the girders level with the top of the girders on either side of this section.

It is noticeable that while the structure was in course of erection an accident occurred which significantly demonstrated the tremendous force of the wind, and the possibility of just such a terrible disaster as that which occurred on Sunday evening. On the afternoon and night of the 1st of February, 1877, a fierce gale was blowing. Near the south side of the bridge, two of the large iron girders, weighing each nearly 200 tons, had been raised up to the full height of the structure, but were still hanging in the lifts between the piers. Fifty-four men who were employed at this point ceased work at 5 o'clock, but owing to the severity of the gale it was impossible to communicate with the shore. About 8 o'clock, a few minutes after several of the men had left a shanty placed on the top of the girders to another uncompleted portion of the structure, a fierce squall struck the bridge. It carried away the two ponderous girders, and the pier on which they rested snapped, the whole mass falling with a heavy crash into the river amid flashes of fire from the splintered iron-work. Fortunately, only one man was injured; and the whole party were released by a steamer, on the storm abating next morning, at 5 o'clock. It was stated at the time that "the accident in no way indicated any want of stability in the work."

The first train crossed the bridge on the 26th of September, 1877, starting from the south side. The trip was made for purposes of inspection only, but about 20,000 or 30,000 people assembled on the Magdalen Green, Dundee, to witness the spectacle, for the building of the bridge was regarded as one of the greatest engineering feats of the age. The structure was not formally opened for passenger traffic until May 31, 1878. On that occasion there was a grand ceremony, to which invitations had been issued to the leading noblemen and gentlemen of Great Britain. A general holiday was proclaimed in Dundee and the neighboring places, and vast crowds assembled to take part in the celebration. The train containing the officers of the North British Railway Company and the invited guests came up to the bridge from the south, crossed it, and reached the north end amid the enthusiastic cheers of the multitude. The company was welcomed at the Dundee Station by the magistrates and Council, and the Tay Bridge was then formally declared open for traffic, to be worked by the North British Railway Company. This immense structure is a part of the system of the company named, and the bridging of the Frith of Forth has already been begun by the same corporation, the engineer being also Sir Thomas Bouch.

A RAILROAD'S GENEROSITY.

THE PENNSYLVANIA PROPOSING TO INCREASE THE WAGES OF ITS EMPLOYES.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 29.—The semi-official announcement was made to-day, by a prominent officer of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, that some time early in the Spring, soon after the annual meeting in March, there would be an increase in the wages of the employes of the corporation, from the highest to the lowest. Talking of the proposed increase, the gentleman said: "At the present time the Pennsylvania Road is doing a very large business, but it is at very low rates. The cause of this lies in the fact that the steel mills and iron furnaces on the line of the road have contracts on hand taken when prices were small. Things have risen since the contracts were in hand, and the iron and steel men come to the railroad authorities and ask low rates so as to help them out in their contracts. There are so many concerns in the same predicament that the Pennsylvania Company cannot do otherwise than accommodate its customers. As soon as these old contracts are worked off, which will be in a short time, there will be an increase in the rate of freights, proportionate to the increase in the price of iron and steel. It is on the basis of this increase in the receipts of the company that the wages are to be raised. Just how much is not known."

Since 1873 the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has reduced the wages of its employes about 25 per cent. from the rate of compensation paid at the former data. It is making preparations to expend about $3,000,000 in an elevated railroad in this city; also to build a new road to Norristown from this city, a distance of about 20 miles, and also to expend about $2,000,000 in improvements about Jersey City and Harsimus Cove. The officers claim that if they increase the wages of the employes of their road, it will compel the New-York Central, Erie, and all the other great trunk lines to do the same thing. Therefore, it is believed that when the increase is announced for the Pennsylvania Company it will be simultaneous on the roads named above.

THE RUSSIAN MISSION DISPOSED OF.

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 29.—The rumors which have been current for several days in New-York and Washington, and which were published in THE TIMES last week, to the effect that President Hayes had offered the Russian Mission to Gov. Van Zandt, have been confirmed by the Governor himself, who stated to night that he had decided to accept the appointment, and would formally inform the President of this fact during the present week.

ATTACKED BY YELLOW FEVER AT SEA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 29.—The schooner Cherubim, Capt. M. E. Lank, from Maringame, Hayti, for New-York, put in yesterday at Smithville in distress. Capt. Lank and the mate, Lemuel Lank, had died of yellow fever on the passage and were buried at sea. The vessel is now at quarantine station, and one man has been sent to the hospital. She was built in Baltimore, and was owned by the Captain and mate, who sailed from Seaford, Del.

THE STEINTHAERS BANKRUPTCY.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Judge Tuley, in the Circuit Court, to-day, decided to appoint a Receiver for the Steinthaer Brothers, upon the petition of H. D. Claflin & Co., of New-York, but requiring that before his appointment the legality of the firm's assignment to Rosenfeld be tested.

CONEY ISLAND LITIGATION.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 29.—Argument is in progress before the Special Term on a motion for a change of venue in the suit for the possession of a large section of Coney Island.

NATIONAL CAPITAL TOPICS

THE IMPENDING UTE WAR.

TROOPS ORDERED TO MOVE FORWARD—NO HOSTILITIES EXPECTED UNTIL GEN. HATCH IS HEARD FROM.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The newspaper dispatches from the Ute country have excited some alarm at the War Department for the safety of Gen. Hatch and the gentlemen who are with him. The Army officers have had no faith in the promises made by Ouray, and did not expect that the commission would succeed in inducing the Indians to surrender those of their number guilty of the atrocity at the White River Agency. At the War Department the attempt to negotiate a peace is regarded as a complete failure, and the departure of Gen. Hatch, it is feared, will destroy the power of Ouray to restrain the Indians from making war on the border settlements and murdering such white people as may fall into their hands. Secretary Ramsey to-day, after consultation with Gen. Sherman, directed the General to telegraph to all the military detachments in the vicinity of the Ute country to be on the alert, and those detachments which are nearest the Ouray Agency have been directed to move forward to the protection of Gen. Hatch and his party. Gen. Sheridan having been granted leave of absence to visit Cuba and Mexico with Gen. Grant, the department commanders of the Division of the Missouri have been instructed to report all movements of their respective commands direct to Gen. Sherman. No intelligence was received to-day at the Interior Department from Gen. Hatch, and thus far no official information has been received concerning the final decision of the commission touching the surrender of the Indians whom Ouray agreed to bring in. While admitting that the present aspect of affairs is discouraging, Secretary Schurz has not abandoned the hope that the guilty Indians will be surrendered and an expensive war avoided. If, however, the surrender is not made, Secretary Schurz will promptly turn over the matter to the War Department, but nothing will be done in this direction until Gen. Hatch is heard from. The statement recently telegraphed to the press from Denver, to the effect that the women of the White River Agency were brutally outraged is true, but for prudential reasons the fact has been heretofore withheld from publication.

Representative Belford, of Colorado, had an interesting interview with Secretary Schurz to-day on the Ute question. Gen. Hatch had telegraphed that he would bring five chiefs from the Southern Agency to Indian Creek, and wanted to know whether he should bring them to Washington. This telegram led to the interview. Judge Belford was in favor of bringing them here, in the hope that they might agree to the removal of the tribe to the Uintah Reservation, and the Secretary was of the same opinion.

The present position of the Indians in regard to the treaty was also discussed. It was conceded that the hostile White River Utes had forfeited their treaty rights, and were to be dealt with as though no treaty had ever been made with them. Judge Belford, however, took the more advanced position that the tribe should be treated as a unit. He argued that they refused, as a tribe, to deliver up the Indians engaged in the massacre, and that although all were not originally concerned in the assault on Major Thornburgh and the massacre at the agency, they were accessories after the fact, and were as guilty as the original participants. The Secretary, in reply, said he would make a careful study of the treaty; that it was possible the treaty required the tribe to deliver up those making war, and that a failure to do so abrogated the treaty. Both gentlemen agreed that these Utes should be removed to the Uintah Reservation.

It is possible that if the Indians refuse to agree to their removal the Government will compel them to go. During the interview a portion of the official correspondence on this subject was read, and Judge Belford thereupon remarked that the Secretary had made a great mistake in not publishing it at the time it was had, and said it would have relieved the Secretary from considerable censure that he thought was undeserved.

Representative Conger, of Michigan, says he intends to renew the discussion when this question again comes up in the House. He also said that the papers in Colorado did not sustain Congressman Belford's view of the subject; that they were opposed to the removal of the Utes, and that when the discussion is resumed he will have them on hand and read from them.

WASHINGTON'S HONORED GUEST.

GEN. GRANT RECEIVES AND MAKES SEVERAL CALLS—HIS DEPARTURE FOR THE SOUTH POSTPONED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Before Gen. Grant had had breakfast this morning there were at least 20 callers to pay their respects to him. He received them, and then ate his morning meal. When he came back into Gen. Beale's sitting-room there were a number of other visitors there, and a large portion of the morning was thus occupied. The General and his son Ulysses then walked to the Department of State and called on Secretary Evarts. The Secretary had meanwhile driven to Gen. Beale's house for the purpose of paying his respects to the ex-President, but hurried back to the department in time to receive the General's call in person. Gen. Grant then proceeded to the War Department, and first entering Gen. Sherman's room, talked some time with him, and afterward received visits there from a number of Army officers on duty in the department. A visit was next paid to Secretary Ramsey on the floor above. The clerks had learned of Gen. Grant's presence in the building, and took occasion to pass from room to room in order to get a look at him. Secretary Thompson received the next visit. Leaving the department, Gen. Grant and his son walked back to Gen. Beale's house, being stopped frequently on the sidewalk, and at 12 o'clock Gen. and Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Fred Grant, Gen. and Mrs. Beale, and Ulysses S. Grant, Jr., drove to the White House to visit Mrs. Hayes. The President is out of town. After leaving the White House the ladies returned to Gen. Beale's residence. Gen. Grant, Gen. Beale, and Ulysses S. Grant, Jr., then went back to the State Department, where Gen. Grant remained about an hour with Secretary Evarts. During the afternoon the ex-President received several additional visitors, among them Chief-Justice Waite and several of the Justices of the Supreme Court. He then took a drive in an open buggy with Gen. Beale. In the evening Gen. and Mrs. Grant were entertained at dinner by Mr. and Mrs. Levi P. Morton, of New-York, the other guests being Chief-Justice Waite, Secretary Evarts, Gen. and Mrs. Beale, Gen. Garfield, Admiral Ammen, Gen. and Mrs. Sheridan, Mrs. Street, of New-York; Miss Barroll, of Baltimore; Senator Cameron, of Pennsylvania; Senator Allison, the Hon. Jay A. Hubbell, the Hon. George B. Loring, and William Morton Grinnell.

A change has been made in the programme for Gen. Grant's Southern trip. He will remain in Washington until next Friday, instead of leaving to-morrow, as he intended. This postponement of his departure has been determined upon in order to enable him to receive many old friends on New-Year's Day.

ARMY AND NAVY INTELLIGENCE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The Navy Department has received advices from Gibraltar reporting the arrival there on Dec. 3 of the United States ship Constellation, Capt. Henry Wilson commanding. Capt. Wilson reports having left New-York Nov. 10, and that he had fine weather until Nov. 21, when, near the Azores, a gale set in which lasted three days. At daylight on the 24th he discovered the Austro-Hungarian bark Olivo, of Trieste, in a sinking condition, and took off the Captain, mate, and the crew of 10 men, and transported them to Gibraltar.

Assistant Surgeon E. D. Taylor, United States Army, is ordered to report to the commanding General of the Department of the East for assignment to duty.

Assistant Surgeon Charles J. Nourse is detached from the Tallapoosa and ordered to the Naval Hospital at Washington. Master Francis Winslow is detached from the Coast Survey, and placed on waiting orders.

MAKING READY AT ALBANY.

OUTGOING AND INCOMING OFFICERS—THE SPEAKERSHIP CONTEST.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 29.—The advance guard of the army of office-seekers has arrived here, and the host that is to follow will, according to report, exceed in number any of a similar character that has been seen in the capital for many years. Gov. Robinson will leave the Executive Mansion to-morrow, and Governor-elect Cornell, who is to arrive to-morrow afternoon, will move in on Wednesday. Gov. Robinson will stay at the Delavan House until New Year's Day, when he will take the afternoon train for New-York, where, with his family, he will stay for a time at the St. James Hotel.

In the State offices there is great activity, both among the outgoing and the incoming officers. The Democrats are packing their effects, while the Republicans are endeavoring to learn something of the duties they are to be called upon to perform. In the Secretary of State's office, Gen. Carr has made a clean sweep of the Democrats. He will have only one man in his office who has ever had any experience in it. Mr. Wadsworth, the new Controller, is in town, and has been in consultation with Controller Olcott about the business of the office to which he will succeed. Clerk Johnson, of the Assembly, is here making preparations for the organization of the House, and Mr Vrooman, the clerk of the last Senate, is making ready for the opening of the upper branch. Gen. Husted will be here on Wednesday to open the Speakership fight, which everybody expects will be a warm one. The idea that Mr. Skinner and Mr. Terry had not secured any strength is ridiculed, and it is stated that each of them has obtained pledges enough to make the contest a doubtful one for both Gen. Sharpe and Gen. Husted.

State Treasurer Wendell has made the following appointments: Deputy—William H. Smyth; Cashier—Richard G. Milks; Bookkeeper—Theodore Mosher; Check Clerk—C. E. Woodruff; Warrant Clerk and Messenger—A. Kirk Pruyn.

THE GOVERNOR'S CLEMENCY.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 29.—The Rochester *Union*, (Dem.) whose editor, William Purcell, is one of the managers of the Western House of Refuge, in this city, recently indignantly protested against Gov. Robinson's pardoning pupils contrary to the managers' wishes, and the good discipline of the institution. Since he has been in office 11 inmates have received Executive clemency. Recently the Governor requested the managers to say why pardons should not be issued to six inmates. The managers print a long reply, in which they express ignorance of the purpose of the reference, because they know of no pardoning power, as the institution is reformatory, not penal; they explain how, by good conduct, inmates can be restored to parents or guardians or apprenticed, and protest that the six pupils are not worthy of the clemency proposed, urging that the precedent will have an injurious effect upon discipline. The *Union*, commenting, says: "This expression of the board has now no weight whatever with the Governor. Indeed, we have the written evidence that the pardon had been promised before the papers were referred to the board. Not one of the six boys is as much entitled, upon his merits, to go out as the score who remain until they attain the requisite standing. And what is most remarkable, is the fact that while there were six applications only five were granted by the Governor, and of the six one was refused a pardon—by far the best boy and had the best standing of the lot.

CRIMINALS AND THEIR DEEDS.

PROCEEDINGS IN CRIMINAL CASES—OFFENSES REPORTED YESTERDAY.

AMITE, La., Dec. 29.—Four negroes, who were imprisoned on the charge of murder, were taken from jail last night by a mob of 30 men and shot to death. Two other prisoners are reported to have been liberated.

KINGSTON, N. Y., Dec. 29.—Ryan, the convicted political rioter, was taken to the Albany Penitentiary by the Sheriff of this county on Dec. 17. On Dec. 20 his counsel made a third application for a stay of proceedings, this time before Judge Osborn, at Catskill. The application was opposed by District Attorney Clearwater. Judge Osborn took the papers, examined the case carefully, and has handed down an opinion in which he reviews the facts and refuses to interfere.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 29.—N. D. Sadler, late member of the Legislature from Franklin County, was assassinated at his home, yesterday, by unknown persons.

STEUBENVILLE, Ohio, Dec. 29.—On Sunday night Thomas Shannon, of Minga, went home drunk, with a bottle of whisky in his pocket, which his wife hid when he was asleep. On awaking Shannon demanded the whisky, but his wife refused to give it to him, whereupon he seized a hatchet and struck her a blow on the head, inflicting probably fatal wound.

PARIS, Ky., Dec. 29.—Flax Rock is excited over a shooting affray which took place between a negro named Simpson and a constable named Gibson. The latter attempted to arrest Simpson, who drew a revolver and shot the constable in the thigh. Gibson returned the shot with a Derringer, the ball taking effect in Simpson's groin. Gibson then shot Simpson in the left breast with a revolver. Simpson is reported to have died to-night.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 29.—Two cousins, named Bedford and Frank Duke, quarreled over a game of cards at Pope's Station, Miss., Saturday night. Frank shot Bedford with a double-barreled shot-gun, killing him instantly.

MOUNT VERNON, Ky., Dec. 30.—There was a bloody ending of a long-standing feud in Rock Castle County to-day. About 1 P. M. at Pine Hill, William A. Owens shot and killed James Langford. They had been deadly enemies for years. In 1868, Owens killed Langford's brother Henry. Owens was tried and acquitted, since which time Langford has attempted several times to kill him. Once he emptied the contents of a shot-gun into Owens's back as he was fleeing for his life. At another time he chased Owens several miles on horseback, when the latter only escaped by taking to the woods. To-day they met and quarreled at the store of A. P. Rickett, at Pine Hill, and Owens, being unarmed, ran to his house and got a double-barreled shot-gun and a navy revolver. Returning, he met Langford in the road, and after emptying both barrels of his gun at his enemy drew his pistol and emptied four chambers of that. Langford fell at the first fire. The

BOSTON'S DISASTROUS FIRE

THE LOSS NOW ESTIMATED AT ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

PECULIAR FEATURES OF THE CONFLAGRATION —WORKING IN THE RUINS—THE BURNED BUILDINGS AND THEIR OCCUPANTS— SOME OF THE ART LOSSES.

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—The peculiar circumstances attending the fire of last night and this morning, and the exaggerated reports first sent abroad, caused a greater excitement than, at first glance, it would seem that the fire warranted. But the fact that it was in the heart of the old burned district, involving some of the most valuable property of that part of the city; that it burned with remarkable rapidity, and was, for a longer time than the Fire Department conductors dared to admit, beyond their control, and that it began very much like the disastrous fire in 1872, justified the excitement and wide-spread fears. It was doubtless due to the improved fire facilities and modes of building suggested by the great fire that this fire was checked as promptly as it was.

The losses will be about as stated in these dispatches last night, falling somewhat inside of $1,000,000. Of this amount Rice, Kendall & Co. sustain about $180,000; Rand, Avery & Co., $50,000; Houghton, Osgood & Co., $180,000; Heliotype Printing Company, $5,000; North National Bank, $5,000; S. D. Warren & Co., $40,000; Spaulding & Tewksbury, $20,000; S. K. Abbott, $20,000; T. Y. Crowell, $40,000; G. P. Bigelow & Co., $72,000; heirs of Isaac Rich, $125,000; Claflin & Brown, $15,000; Pierce, Hardy & Co., $35,000. The insurances was generally ample, especially on the largest concerns.

The great publishing and paper firms have shown commendable business enterprise in arranging for the prompt renewal of business, some of them being already prepared to meet the wants of customers as usual, and all will be so in a day or two. Among the serious literary and art losses is the destruction, with Houghton, Osgood & Co.'s stock of, an entire edition of the history of the Fifth Regiment, prepared by Frank T. Robinson, after seven months of hard labor, together with heliotype prints and plates. It is understood that funds will be raised to republish it. The Heliotype Printing Company lost its large steam hand-presses, negatives, (many of them very valuable,) and plates. At Abbott's bindery, Estes & Lauriat had a quantity of printed sheets, which were entirely destroyed, causing a loss of $3,000 to $4,000. This destruction will make necessary a change of illustrations in the January number of the *American Art Review*, as the plate of the etching from the portrait of Mrs. Charles Francis Adams, by the late William Morris Hunt, which was to have been the principal feature, was melted.

The original cost of the Cathedral Building, in which Houghton, Osgood & Co.'s concern was situated, was $525,000; it is insured for $250,000, and insurance men express the opinion that it can be rebuilt for much less than the insurance, probably for less than $175,000. Its transfer to the Boston University, to which it was bequeathed by the late Isaac Rich, was about to be made.

The work of the Fire Department was not concluded until late this afternoon, five steamers playing upon the ruins until dark. The cause of the fire is still unknown, but it is believed that it began in the room of the watchman of the Miller Building. His duty was to visit every one of the rooms each half hour during the night, but it has been ascertained that he was not on duty from 3 o'clock on Sunday afternoon up to the time of the breaking out of the fire.

Late reports place the aggregate damage to buildings at $819,200; insurance, $525,000. The aggregate loss on merchandise and fixtures, $657,700; insurance, $1,116,100.

THE INSURANCES.

Partial reports of the insurance companies holding risks on the burned buildings and stocks give the following, no statement having been received of the Boston companies interested:

RICE, KENDALL & CO.

Traders', Chicago	$5,000	American	$5,000
Commercial Union, London	2,500	Newark	10,000
North British and Mercantile	2,500	Union, of Newark	5,000
Imperial and North, London	5,000	Phœnix, Brooklyn	2,500
Pacific, New-York	2,500	Hamilton	1,806
Globe, New-York	2,500	Clinton	1,806
Park, New-York	2,500	Girard	5,000
National, New-York	2,500	Delaware Mutual	2,500
Ætna, New-York	2,500	Commerce, Albany	1,500
Long Island, N. Y.	2,500	Fairfield	1,500
Firemen's, Cincinnati		Westchester	2,500
New-York	2,500	Relief	2,500
Rutgers, New-York	2,500		
Williamsburg City, New-York	2,500		
Howard City, N. Y.	2,500		
Knickerbocker, N. Y.	2,500		
Commercial, N. Y.	2,500		
St. Nicholas, N. Y.	2,500		
Germania, N. Y.	5,000		

CATHEDRAL BUILDING.

Pacific	$5,000	Merchants', Newark	$5,000
Westchester	5,000	Western Assurance	5,000
Williamsburg City	5,000	Franklin, Phila	2,500
Tradesmen's	5,000	Ins. Co. of N. A	7,500
Williamsburg City	5,000	Providence	5,000
Home	5,000	Merchants', Prov	5,000
Hoffman	2,500	Atlantic, Prov	5,000
Hudson, N. Y.	2,500	Orient, Hartford	5,000
Manhattan	10,000	Meriden	5,000
Buffalo	5,000	Security, Conn	2,500
American, Newark	5,000	Springfield	5,000

HUNNEWELL BUILDING.

Franklin, Phila	$5,000	Greenwich	$3,500
Insurance Company of North America	10,000	Commercial	5,000
Standard, Phila	5,000	Springfield	5,000

HOUGHTON, OSGOOD & CO.

Commercial Union	$5,000	Girard	$2,000
Traders', Chicago	5,000	Neptune	2,000
Phœnix	2,000	German, Newark	2,000
Fireman's, Baltimore	2,000	Howard	2,000
Imperial, N. Y.	5,000	Guardian, London	5,000
German, Baltimore	2,000		

OTHER INSURANCES.

Commercial, N. Y. and D. Warren	$32,500	Canada Fire and Marine	$5,000
Merchants', N. Y., D. Chandler, E. Thayer & Co., Guardian, D. & H. Thayer & Co	2,000	Humboldt, Newark	5,000
	1,250	Liverpool and London and Globe	12,500
City, New-York	1,250	Mercantile, N. Y.	5,000
Commonwealth	$2,500	Westchester	5,000
Portland	2,500	Atlantic, New-York	$2,500
Merchants'	2,500	Northern	1,875
Security	2,500	New-York Fire	2,000
Providence Mutual	2,500	Hope, N. Y.	2,500
Northern, New-York	1,250	Germania, N. Y.	5,000
Newark	1,250	Queen	6,000
Park, New-York	2,500	Shoe and Leather	6,000
Meriden	20,000	Prescott	2,500
American Exchange	5,000	Mechanics' Mutual	2,500
Farragut	$3,000	Manufacturers'	$3,750
Globe, New-York	2,000	London and Lancashire	2,500
Faneuil Hall	2,000	Phœnix, Brooklyn	2,500
Royal	6,000	German American	5,000
Insurance Company of North America	9,000	China	2,500
Pennsylvania	4,750	Atlantic, New-York	5,000
		Relief	5,000

Inquiry among the insurances men in this City elicited the fact that most of the insurance is placed either in Boston or in foreign offices, and that the local offices in this City will suffer little, if any. The risks taken by companies having offices or agencies here so far as could be learned yesterday, are as follows: Liverpool and London and Globe Company, $32,500; Imperial, $7,500; Northern, $7,500; North British, about $10,000. The Guardian and the Caisse Générale each has risks on the burned property, but all this could be learned at the offices was that the loss was light. It was estimated in insurance circles that all the risks held by agencies in this City would not amount to $100,000.

THE SUFFERERS.

The following tables give the names of the firms and corporations suffering by the fire, with the estimated losses and the amounts of insurance, as far as at present ascertained:

ON STOCK.	Loss.	Insurance.
Abbott, S. K., No. 91 Federal-street, binder	$20,000	$8,000
Ashton Valve Company, No. 91 Federal-street	5,000	2,000
Baker, Esperanza, No. 91 Federal-street, binder	....	....
Boston Credit Bureau, No. 97 Federal-street	....	....
Bown, W. F. & Co., No. 113 Franklin-street	....	$2,000
Brigham, publisher, Franklin-street	10,000	....
Calder, John, & Co., No. 123 Franklin-street, paper	....	....
Claflin & Brown, No. 216 Devonshire-street, twine, &c	15,000	Partial.
Callender & Co., Devonshire-street, cutlery	....	....
Collins, D. F., No. 73 Federal-street, blank books	....	....
Cornell, Thomas W., No. 91 Federal-street, binder	40,000	30,000
Davis, Lane & Allen, Devonshire-street, printing	200,000	....
Dillingham, John, Devonshire and Franklin streets, paper	....	....
Dillingham Paper Company, No. 119 Franklin-street	....	2,500
Dolan, George D., & Co., No. 97 Federal-street, wool	10,000	10,000
Dunbar, E. E., Devonshire	....	....
East Boston Ferry Company, No. 249	....	....
Estes & Lauriat	4,000	....
Faulkner, D. & Co., No. 91 Federal-street, wool	....	....
Fletcher Manufacturing Company, No. 69 Federal-street	....	....
Foster, George, Devonshire-street	....	....
Goss, George H. & Co., No. 119 Franklin-street, commission	....	....
Heliotype Printing Company, No. 223 Devonshire-street	5,000	....
Houghton, Osgood & Co., No. 113 Franklin-street and No. 223 Devonshire-street	180,000	75,000
Lawrence, W. F. & Co., No. 69 Federal-street, bankers	....	....
McGrath Brothers, No. 213 Devonshire-street, boots and shoes	....	....
Monroe, James S., No. 119 Franklin-street	....	....
Moore, Smith & Co., Devonshire-street	....	....
New England Glass Works, No. 67 Federal-street	....	....
New-York and Boston Dispatch, No. 222 Devonshire-street	....	....
North National Bank, Devonshire and Franklin streets	5,000	....
Osgood, Moses E., Devonshire-street	....	....
Perry, Charles E., No. 111 Franklin-street	....	....
Perry, E., Devonshire and Franklin streets, paper-cutting machines	....	....
Peters, C. J. & Son, No. 73 Federal-street, stereotypers	....	....
Pierce, Hardy & Co., Devonshire-street, woolens	35,000	47,500
Rand, Avery & Co., 67 Federal-street, and No. 117 Franklin-street	50,000	222,919
Rice, Kendall & Co., No. 91 Federal-street	180,000	180,000
Salvin & Page, No. 105 Federal-street, saddlery	....	....
Sanborn, S. H., No. 73 Federal-street, book-binder	....	....
Scott, William, No. 73 Federal-street, wool	....	....
Schenck, W. S., No. 119 Franklin-street, paper	....	....
Serlenes, Charles's Sons	....	....
Spaulding & Tewksbury, Devonshire-street, paper	20,000	....
Tarr, Edward A., No. 222 Devonshire-street, express	....	....
Thayer, E. H. & Co., No. 75 Federal-street, paper	....	4,500
Union Express Office, No. 223 Devonshire-street	....	....
Warren, S. D. & Co., No. 113 Franklin and No. 222 Devonshire street	40,000	40,000
Wilbur, H. A. & Co., Nos. 73 and 75 Federal-street, printers	....	....
Williams & Osburn, No. 105 Federal-street, wool	....	....
Wool, Franklin, No. 93 Federal-street	....	....

*These firms have an estimated loss of about $50,000.

ON BUILDINGS.

Bigelow, George T., heirs of, Nos. 91-95 Federal-street	$72,000		
Harrott, John, No. 73 Federal-st	....	$5,000	
Hunnewell, H. H., Devonshire-street	70,000	$70,000	
Rich, Isaac, heirs of; Cathedral Building, Devonshire and Franklin streets	125,000	250,000	
Ritchie, John, Nos. 83 to 87 Federal-street	....	32,000	
Structure adjoining Cathedral Building	50,000	....	

The three publishing houses in this City which were reported to have suffered losses from the fire in Boston on Sunday night were asked yesterday for any information in their possession. Mr. Houghton, the manager of the New-York branch of the house of Houghton, Osgood & Co., said that he had received nothing from Boston, except a brief dispatch informing him that all the bound stock of the firm was burned. He thought that there were probably $300,000 or $400,000 worth of books on hand in the Boston store, and these were all destroyed. The loss, however, he believed was very nearly covered by insurance, although he was unable to say in what companies the firm was insured. The paper stock of the house was in the press-rooms in Cambridge, and escaped destruction. The firm, he thought, would be able to begin filling orders again in about three days, and no permanent derangement of the business would result from the fire.

A member of the firm of Charles Scribner's Sons said that he did not know precisely what loss the house had suffered, but it could not be very heavy. Rand, Avery & Co. had been employed in printing their books for a long time, but the Scribners furnished their own paper, and a quantity of this paper was stored in the establishment of Rand, Avery & Co. It was fully covered by insurance, however, so that the loss really falls upon the insurance companies.

The report that G. H. Putnam's Sons lost anything by the fire is unfounded. A member of the firm said that Rand, Avery & Co. had formerly done work for them, and that probably in the hurry and excitement of the moment they gave the reporters the names of all the New-York firms for which they had ever done business. They have done no work for the Putnams for a long time.

THE WEATHER.

SYNOPSIS AND INDICATIONS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30—1 A. M.—The pressure continues highest in the South Atlantic and East Gulf States, where warmer, southerly winds, partly cloudy or clear weather prevail. The area of lowest pressure has moved north-eastward down the St. Lawrence Valley, and south-west winds, with rain, are now generally followed over the lake region by cooler, westerly winds and rising barometer. Cold, northerly winds, rising and high barometer, have prevailed over the Northern Rocky Mountains. Rising barometer and clear weather have prevailed at Rocky Mountain and Pacific coast stations, except rain in Arizona. The rivers fell on Monday, three feet at Cincinnati, two feet at Louisville, one foot at Pittsburg, and over three feet at Chattanooga, but rose eighteen inches at Cairo and Memphis.

INDICATIONS.

For Tuesday, in the South Atlantic and Gulf States, stationary or rising barometer, warmer southerly winds, clear or partly cloudy weather, followed in the interior of the West Gulf States by cooler northerly winds.

For Tennessee, the Ohio Valley, and lower lake region, south-west, veering to colder north-west winds, rising barometer, cloudy and rainy, followed by clearing, weather.

For the Upper Mississippi and Lower Missouri Valleys, and upper lake region, rising followed by stationary or falling barometer, diminishing north-west winds, in northern portions by variable and southerly winds, stationary or lower temperature, cloudy weather, and snow, followed by clear or clearing weather.

For the Middle Atlantic States and New-England, south-west to north-west winds, rising barometer, stationary or lower temperature, and partly cloudy weather.

For the Pacific Coast, clear weather, possibly followed by rains in the North Pacific region.

For the canal region of the Middle Atlantic States, the temperature will continue above freezing, but will fall below in New-York.

The rivers will generally fall, except a slight rise in the Central Mississippi.

IN THIS CITY.

The following record shows the changes in the temperature for the past 24 hours, in comparison with the corresponding date of last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudnut's pharmacy:

	1879.	1878.		1879.	1878.
3 A. M.	18°	35°	9:30 P. M.	31°	42°
6 A. M.	19°	35°	6 P. M.	35°	43°
9 A. M.	27°	37°	9 P. M.	34°	44°
12 M.	29°	41°	12 P. M.	34°	43°

Average temperature yesterday.....40°
Average temperature for same date last year.....33½°

CHICAGO PORK-PACKERS.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The Packing and Provision Company, which hitherto has been regarded as friendly to the union, this morning posted a notice that the firm intended henceforth to run its own business and employ whoever came, regardless of the union. During the day about 60 of their best slaughterers struck on account of this notice. The company engaged 100 non-union men in their place. Slaughtering at Armour's, at the Anglo-American Company's, and at Fowler Brothers' has gone forward well with exclusively non-union men. Armour expects 300 employes from outside the city. The union holds meetings daily and is firm and determined. The members claim to have received $7,000 from other unions. The receipts of hogs were much larger to-day, and the appearance of matters at the stock-yards was more lively this morning than for two weeks past.

COAL PRICES FOR JANUARY.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 29.—The following circular of line and city prices of coal was issued by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company this afternoon: Lump, steam-boat, egg, broken, and chestnut No. 1, $2 65 per ton; stove and small stove, $2 90 per ton; chestnut No. 2, $2 40 per ton; pea No. 1, $1 55; pea No. 2, $1 40. These prices, which apply to white and coal at Shamokin Haven, indicate an advance of 25 cents per ton. All mailed orders for December will be executed. The rates of tolls have not yet been fixed, in consequence of the absence of President Gowen from the city, and the harbor prices have not been arranged for the same reason. The advance in tolls will probably be 10 cents per ton, as announced some time ago. Circulars to furnacemen were issued this afternoon, stating that the price of lump and steam-boat coal for January will be $2 25 per ton at Schuylkill Haven.

MATTERS IN PERU.

The Charge d'Affaires of Peru denies the report said to have emanated from the Chilian Legation at Paris announcing the arrival at Panama of the President of Peru on his way to the United States and Europe. Telegraphic advices to Dec. 20 have been received here from Callao, at which date perfect order prevailed in Lima, and there had been no change in the Government.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The receipts from internal revenue to-day were $661,620 20, and from Customs $477,195 50.

GUTHRIE, K. C., Dec. 29.—The remains of Major Wade Hampton, Jr., arrived here to-day en route to be interred in Trinity church-yard.

PERTURBATION IN EUROPE

A PARISIAN GLANCE AT AFFAIRS.

STREET ROBBERIES AND THE PARIS POLICE—EFFECTS OF WINTER WEATHER—POLITICAL TROUBLES IN SPAIN—ASPECT OF AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

PARIS, Dec. 15.—Diamond robberies are by no means rare incidents in the French capital; few months go by without the record of some successful burglary in this line, sometimes from the shop-window of a jeweler, quite as often from some private house, whose mistress has not been sufficiently discriminating in the choice of her intimates. Still, I think that the little affair which came off in the Palais Royal last week is quite unique in its way, being an instance of the arrest of the thief, within 50 yards of the theatre of his crime, without the recovery of the stolen jewelry, and without any clue to the personality of his accomplices. Kadish is his name, Oriental is his costume, and Mohammedan his persuasion. Strolling through the galleries, like the roaring lion of the Scriptures, Kadish was attracted by the brilliant display of M. Fontana's window, and the devil getting the better of the virtuous precepts of the Koran, he smashed the glass, snatched up two necklaces worth, together, about 70,000 francs, and bolted. The interesting foreigner did not get far; he had not gone half-way across the garden before he was caught and searched, the last operation resulting in the conviction that, if he had taken the gems, he certainly had not kept them. The basin of the Palais Royal was drained, its mud was passed through a sieve, the flower-beds were raked and examined with minute care, but all in vain. He had a diamond on his person, it is true, but this he affirms to be his own property, and as neither M. Fontana nor any one else can identify it as belonging to them, as nothing like it has been missed elsewhere, we are bound to suppose that his story is true. Did he loot the necklaces? Certainly; he was an amateur of precious stones, like all his countrymen, and preferred to have them in his own possession than to admire them through a glass. But concerning who helped him afterward he is obstinately silent, and although a friend and co-religionist, employed in a Grenelle manufactory, has since then been arrested, and has confessed his participation in a part of the affair, neither threats nor promises, nor even the offer of a large reward by the despoiled tradesman, nor all the skillful researches of the Parisian detectives, can get at any knowledge whatever of the disposal of the "swag." The Police are quite downcast over their ill-success, which is thrown up to them by their enemies as another proof that the authorities and employes of the Rue de Jerusalem are not nearly as wall up in their duties as they used to be. Not a great many people care in the least about the incident, in itself. I am afraid that there is a rather large contingent of the population which, if the entire shop had been sacked, would have only regretted that they had not received a share of the plunder, but it has come just at the moment when we had been officially assured of the exaggeration of the stories of criminal attempts, and timid individuals ask whether there really has been exaggeration; whether their houses and persons are really in safety. Besides, it is something to talk about, now that conversation on the subject of the snow has been exhausted, and that the snow itself begins to disappear, thanks partly to the Ediles, who have awakened from their political hallucinations to the consideration that they had been elected not to spout politics, but to attend to the wants of their fellow-citizens, and thanks, still more, to a sudden thaw which has transformed the streets into viscous water-courses, through which we wallow, not walk. If the meteorologists be correct, the Parisians are not out of the woods yet, as these celestial calculations announce a much bigger thing in the Arctic storm line than the last edition, unprecedented as this was in Parisian annals, since 1834—to-day is the appointed time for its dawn to bring forth. It is not dangerous symptoms, the natives, forgetting that it is the Ides of March have come; they are not yet past, cast about them for to-morrow's amusements.

The last week has been very barren in that way. The Murcian Festival at the Hippodrome was, very sensibly, postponed from the 11th to the 18th inst., and the theatres, of which several were to have produced new plays but decided to wait, scarcely managed to cover their expenses, even with most attractive programmes. On one night just 65 persons went to admire the capital acting at the Odéon; the Châtelet shut up altogether, as the Jardin d'Acclimatation declined to send the live stock which it furnished for the "Vénus Noire," and the Porte St. Martin's manager was inclined to do likewise on Friday, when suddenly the thermometer rose 10° Centigrade in the space of four hours' time. Such distress among the poor has never before been reported, and although the Chambers have voted a relief fund of 5,000,000 francs, 500,000 francs have been appropriated to the same purpose by the Municipal Council, and private benevolence has contributed considerably more than twice that sum—Mme. Boucicault, of the well-known Bon Marché shop, alone giving 30,000 francs—it is doubtful if the unfortunate proletarians can be succored to the full extent of their necessities. No population on earth is so ready as the Parisian to give alms to those in want, to come to the assistance of suffering, either at home and abroad, and, though French people may be dyed in the wool with wickedness, be capable of violating every commandment of the decalogue, as the American Muse of Fiction would lead her credulous readers to suppose, even she cannot contest their generosity while the highest of authorities has told us that charity covers a multitude of sins! The Murcian Festival, by the way, is French, as it is called, because it originated with and has been conducted by, the metropolitan newspapers, will be a very successful affair, so far as its proceeds are in question, but whether it be as brilliantly and as fashionably attended as was hoped, and with reason expected, depends entirely upon the state of the elements between this and Thursday, and it may be on what happens in Spain between this and then. Queen Isabella was permitted to be present at her son's marriage, and her immediate return to Paris may not have been influenced by any political considerations, but it is certain that the truce between the different factions of the Peninsula which was tacitly consented to, out of deference to their young sovereign, ceased with the last chime of his wedding-bells.

Marshal Martinez-Campos was forced to resign by those who pretended that, though to keep Alfonso on the throne would be a good policy, the welfare of the mother country—an even more important consideration—forbade the granting of the promised reforms without radical modifications. Then Señor Posada Herrera was requested to form a Cabinet, and he failing in his efforts, Canovas Del Castillo's creature, Ayala, and finally, to close the comedy, the arch-plotter himself, who, as I stated months ago, when the "Pacifico" of Cuba took the direction of State affairs, only bided his time to get back again to office, with his influence increased by the failures and shortcomings of his predecessor. Señor Canovas Del Castillo's ambition is to be considered a "man of destiny." He is certainly able, but his presumption and self-sufficiency are so excessive that the long duration of his new lease of power may be doubted. His voluntary political eclipse has lasted just long enough to use up a troublesome rival, and as he had artfully prepared the intrigues which culminated in the Spanish Restoration, so now he has managed to rid himself of the most dangerous of his then accomplices. The General to whom is due the pronunciamiento of Sagunto has shown his incapacity as a statesman; his Cabinet has dragged on a painful existence for nearly a year, compromising, by its Parliamentary failures, the victories of the President over the Carlists and the Cubans. Even his fall was inglorious; he succumbed to the intrigues and dissensions of his colleagues, without the satisfaction of defending, in a last battle, his policy before the representatives of the country, and the author of his collapse was naturally designated as his successor, he being the only man in the Peninsula supposed to be capable of uniting a majority in the Cortes.

Events will show how far this confidence in his abilities is justified. Impatient of contradiction, Canovas Del Castillo's debates with his fellow-Ministers have always been marked, hitherto, less by the depths of his political combinations than by the extreme haughtiness of his demeanor, in consequence of which he has never obtained the co-operation of any but mediocrities. He has admirers and courtiers, but he has no friends, and has not usually been well inspired in the choice of his principal auxiliaries. But in the Parliament he has heretofore displayed qualities as a statesman of no common order. He knows what he wishes to accomplish; there is never any vacillation or irresolution, and, while enforcing the obedience of his party, he possesses the rare talent of explaining his policy to the satisfaction of his hearers. His game has always been to put some one in his place whenever the situation appeared perilous. He did it, in the first instance, with Jovellar, recently with Martinez-Campos, after each, returning to the political arena, apparently more powerful than ever. He has been compared to M. De Villèle, the cleverest Minister of the reigns of Louis XVIII. and Charles X., but, unlike the Franchimas, who was a reactionary by education and temperament, M. Canovas Del Castillo is firmly convinced of the genuine Liberalism of his administration. The chief of the French Ultra-Royalists accepted Parliamentary institutions with resignation, as a species of necessary evil. The leader of the Conservative Liberals of Spain, who, from his doctrines, should be considered as the incarnation of the principle of popular sovereignty, is, by nature and disposition, inclined to retrograde to the ideas of the Holy Alliance, if not to the régime of Philip II. With his advent to power it was remarked that the Cortes had found their master, the King his guardian, but it is to be feared that the results of his policy will be to precipitate the explosion of another revolution, before which will again fall the throne of the Spanish Bourbons.

The news received from Madrid is meagre. The telegraph being under the control of the Ministry, all unfavorable dispatches are suppressed, but from those sent by foreign correspondents, who have wired them from the French frontier station of Hendaye, we can glean a tolerably correct notion of the extreme tension existing between the Cabinet and the Cortes. The opposition is very serious; 34 Generals have already offered their resignations, and the maintenance of the Ministry is considered to be impossible. When the new President announced to the Chambers that his policy would be simply the continuation of that followed by the Marshal, angry murmurs were heard from all the benches. What need was there of a Ministerial crisis! asked the Deputies; why not have supported patriotically the other Cabinet? What has become of the theories professed by Señor De Orovio and his friends in the Council which caused the overthrow of Martinez-Campos? To the surprise of all, Señor Canovas del Castillo refused to reply, and, apparently losing his coolness in the face of an unexpected opposition, left the hall with his colleagues. A tumult, such as Spanish Parliamentary annals do not record, followed; Deputies and spectators rushed upon the floor, and the intervention of the Police was necessary to clear the vicinity of the Legislative Palace of the crowds who greeted the minority with cries of *Viva la Libertad!* Immediately afterward, 70 members of the Moderate, Democratic, Constitutionalist, and Cuban groups, including Señor Sagasta and Señor Gonzalez Morera, personal friends of Martinez-Campos, met under the Presidency of Señor Gonzalez, the Vice-President of the Chamber, and, after an animated discussion, elected a committee on which, among other distinguished personages, were Señors Sagasta and Castelar, to confer with the President of the Chamber, Señor Ayala, on the question of Señor Canovas Del Castillo's insolent behavior to the representatives of the nation. On the same day Señor Ayala received this committee, which declared that, if the Government refused satisfaction to the minority, its groups would not resume their seats in Parliament. Negotiations are now pending for their return, but so far nothing has been accomplished, and of the gravity of the situation some idea may be formed from the fact that during the session of which I have spoken a number of Deputies left the Ministerial benches for the opposition, with whom will henceforth work the late Prime Minister, who is convinced that the policy of the new Cabinet will inevitably result in the loss of Cuba.

The British press is inclined to take a very gloomy view of Russian affairs. The recent attempt upon the Emperor's life at Moscow has led to the conviction of the existence of a vast conspiracy, and the proclamation issued by the Revolutionary Committee immediately upon the Czar's return to Petersburg can leave no doubt that the Nihilists propose to renew the outrages, against which such rigorous measures were taken, at the beginning of the year. Of the attitude of the Government we have no certain indication, but as the conspirators affect not only to justify their recent crime, but to treat it as merely a trifling episode of their intended campaign against autocracy, we may conclude that, on their part, there will still be no mercy shown, while the removal of the most influential of the Imperial Ministers, M. Volonieff, is evidence that repression and reaction only may be expected from the rulers. "I want men of action about me, not sentimental doctrinarians," exclaimed Alexander II., when M. De Maleoff presented his Reform bill, which the sovereign threw into the fire, and those who form the present surroundings of his Majesty are men who have never been noted as counselors of mercy or tolerance. The London *Globe* is especially pessimist in its forebodings, but is altogether at fault when it speaks of the popularity acquired by Nihilism among the upper classes. It is a redoubtable adversary, but, in reality, the aristocracy, and even the great mass of the proletarian population, is profoundly indifferent to its agitations. Still, the necessity of a more liberal régime is felt, and until this be granted it is impossible to expect that general rally of the nation to the Government which would result in the extinction of the conspiracy by the isolation of the conspirators. Even the Nihilist proclamation itself points to this in a passage, for the first time, setting forth the Nihilist programme in a different light from what had hitherto appeared: "We will leave Alexander II. in peace; we will pardon him the evil he has done if, renouncing his absolute authority, he transmits his power to an Assembly freely elected by universal suffrage, and acting under the instructions of *its constituents*. Until then we will *wage a pitiless war against him so long as we* have a drop of blood in our veins, in order that the banner of national liberty may float over the ruins of despotism, and the will of its peoples become the law of Russia."

The great Empire of the North has become of great interest to foreigners. A great deal has been said and written about it, but very little is really known, and on this account, notwithstanding the indemency of the weather, there was a very fair attendance upon Mme. Olympe Audouard's conference on Friday night to hear some one who had inhabited the country tell of its population and aspirations. Mme. Audouard did not precisely offer an apology for the Nihilists, but she told of the sufferings of the nation from the iron rule of autocracy, and gave much interesting information of the condition of all classes, which, by an article of their religious creed, cited textually during the lecture, owe not only passive obedience and adoration to the autocrat, but also gratitude to the Divinity for the establishment of autocracy. Mme. Audouard has already published several works which, in the form of romances, initiate us into the organization of those mysterious committees whose adepts combat with the terrible weapons of assassination and arson; but on this occasion she confined herself to strict facts, deploring at the same time that the laws of the French Republic interfered with the exhaustive development of her subject.

SMALL-POX IN WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Eighteen cases of small-pox was reported in the city to-day, and the Board of Health, while not yet seriously apprehensive, are using vigorous measures to prevent the disease from spreading, and to confine it to the section of the city where it appears to have broken out. A colored woman residing in Georgetown and affected with small-pox in its noxious form, was found on Pennsylvania avenue to-day, having walked through the streets a mile or more. She was taken in an ambulance and taken to the Small-pox Hospital. Thus far there have been only two deaths in this city. One fatal case in Baltimore has been directly traced here. A Treasury warrant for $5,000 was drawn to-day to assist the Commissioners in preventing the spread of the disease.

AN AGED MAN'S DEATH.

From the Pittsburg (Penn.) Commercial, Dec. 25.

An upright Christian gentleman died yesterday morning within a short distance of the spot where he first drew the breath of his 92 years ago. His name was William Kearns, an old resident of Union Township, and one of the oldest inhabitants of that section of the county. He had never been sick a day in his life, and died literally of old age, the spark of life expiring like the departing flame of a burned-out candle. He had been married 60 years, his wife dying a year ago at the ripe age of 91. Of his 12 children, 6 survive him—4 daughters and 2 sons.

IRON STOCKS RISING IN PRICE.

From the Wheeling (West Va.) Intelligencer, Dec. 26.

The iron stocks of Wheeling and vicinity, of whatever description, are about all as par now, including those that could hardly be sold at 50 cents on the dollar six months ago. It seems strange that the iron stocks that people are now ready to buy at par and over should, so many of them, have gone a-begging for purchasers a few months ago at far less than par. But it is a curious law that the very people who are the most averse to buying anything when it is dead low in price are the most certain to buy it when it has reached a dizzy altitude of inflation.

A fire occurred about 11 o'clock yesterday morning in the four-story brick building at No. 252 Plymouth-street, Brooklyn, occupied by P. F. Lotz & Co. as an oil factory, which occasioned a loss on stock and building of $6,500. The fire resulted from the boiling over of a small pot of oil.

OLD BALTIMORE FAMILIES

INTERESTING REMINISCENCES OF THE EARLY DAYS.

COL. J. THOMAS SCHARF DESCRIBES THE LUXURIOUS SURROUNDINGS OF THE RICH DWELLERS EIGHTY YEARS AGO.

From the Baltimore Sun, Dec. 26.

So few of the present generation realize the various changes which have come over this community during the past century that the writer feels tempted in this paper, to try to give some idea of Baltimore society as it existed about 80 years ago, say from 1789 to 1810. Instead of a population of nearly 400,000, as at present, Baltimore numbered in 1790 13,503 inhabitants, or about one-thirtieth of its present citizenship. There was scarcely a house west of Liberty-street, and but few north of Calvert and Saratoga streets and Market, now called Baltimore-street, as late as 1804, contained but 430 scattered warehouses, stores and dwellings. The fine residences were situated principally on Lovely-lane, South, South Gay and Water streets, the latter afterward widened, and now called Exchange-place. In these narrow and crooked streets were seated the elegance and refinement, and at the same time the home of the arts and sciences, and the parades of fashion and frivolity of the third commercial city in the Union. Here the large landed proprietors and wealthy merchants of Baltimore lived like feudal chiefs in the Winter, their days given to politics and their nights to fashionable card parties, and other pastimes, and in Summer they took up their quarters on their estates in the neighborhood. Their palatial Summer residences crowned the semi-circle of hills around the newly-corporated city, and were built of brick in the highest style of the English architecture of the day. They were rarely more than two stories high, and in most instances consisted simply of a central hall, with wings stretching right and left, and showing a total frontage of from 100 to 150 feet. Unconnected with the main building, but clustering about it, were the storehouses and the offices for domestic purposes, and in the rear or on one side, screened by trees, but within easy distance, were the quarters and stalls for the servants, while further off the stable, kennels, and other outhouses. Simply plain and massive externally, and with an air of solid comfort about them, the interior finish of these mansions was remarkable for thoroughness and elaboration. Large sums of money being lavished on the carved mantels, cornices, and moldings, and on the broad, heavy, mahogany stairways. All the rooms were carpeted, and the floors beautifully white, but rarely carpeted. The pictures on the walls were few, and these for the most part family portraits. The furniture of these fashionable dwellings was often imported from England, particularly the finest pieces, many of which yet remain in proof of the excellence of the manufacture; feather beds were used, and bed clothing was commonly quilted and worked with beautiful designs; artists were liberally patronized in the adornment of dwellings, chinaware and porcelain were in common use, and in the matter of plate, silverware of the best pattern observed show a refined taste in the choice of articles. Jewelry of great value was displayed by the wealthy on grand occasions, and costly silver-plate was frequently to be found.

A Maryland gentleman of the olden time, seated on domains that were over thousands of acres, and living in what was very like a baronial state, and educated, perhaps, in Europe, polished in manners, hospitable, generous, cordial, and manly, was a noble specimen of man. He is described as wearing his hair or a wig powdered and tied in a long cue; a plaited white stock; a shirt ruffled at the bosom and over the hands, and fastened at the wrist with gold sleeve-buttons; a blue broadcloth coat with white buttons, lined with white silk, and made full at the skirts with buckram; a figured silk vest, divided so that the pockets extended over the thighs; black silk or satin small clothes, with large gold or silver knee-buckles; cotton or silk stockings; large shoes with short quarters, and buckles to match.

The ladies of Baltimore were already distinguished for those attractions which have been celebrated so much and so often since. For beauty, grace, and intelligence they cannot be surpassed, and at the time of which we are writing their costumes followed the country from which they obtained the rich material for their dresses—silks and satins and brocades. They wore gorgeous brocade and taffeta, luxuriantly displayed and girdled under the armpits with comely laced bodies, and sleeves that clung to the arm as far as the elbow, and then expanded into voluptuous ruffles. Their hair was powdered, pomaded, and puffed; their collars were low in the neck, and a kerchief, silky and white, was folded over the bosom, and tucked within the armor of the unbending high-peaked stays; their high-heeled shoes were satin, and "beneath their petticoats, white as snow, crept in and out," for they took the daintiest of little mincing steps, and put on a multitude of coquettish airs.

Pre-eminent at this period in point of elegance was the princely estate of "Belvidere" or "Howard's Park." The front of the mansion faced the north-west, the colonnade in the rear looked to the south-east, and positions more delightful for the

THE GAME OF STRATEGOS

ILLUSTRATING THE STUDY OF WAR.

AN AMERICAN'S IMPROVEMENT ON THE GERMAN GAME OF KRIEGSSPIEL—EXPLANATION OF THE MANNER IN WHICH IT IS PLAYED BY LIEUT. TOTTEN BEFORE THE MILITARY SERVICE INSTITUTION.

A general meeting of the Military Service Institution of the United States was held at the headquarters of Gen. Hancock, on Governor's Island, yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of hearing a paper read by First Lieut. G. A. L. Totten, of the Fourth United States Artillery, on the new American war game, "Strategos." One of the large assembly-rooms of the building had been specially prepared for the purpose of illustrating the paper, and all of the maps, charts, and pieces used primarily in the game were spread upon a table extending the entire length of the room on one side, while in the intervening space was a table showing the ground to be used in the "advanced" game. The surface of this table was undulating, containing mountains, rivers, hills, forests, glades, underbrush, swamps, and other imitative features of a suppositive battle-field. Another table, of the same size as that on which illustrated the "tactic" game, the opposing armies, respectively consisting of red and blue oblong blocks, representing equal forces of 50,000 men. A raised platform, extending around three sides of the room, afforded accommodations for spectators, among whom there were many ladies. Invitations had been extended to the officers of the several regiments in the National Guard, as well as the regular Army, but the only response came from the Ninth Regiment, which was represented by Col. Ryder, Major Wetmore, and Commissary Wheeler. Gen. Hancock presided, and among the other Army officers present were Gen. Howard, Col. Comstock, Col. Delos McKeever, Brown, Abbott, Cullum, Ely, Griffin, and Doubleday; Cols. Nugent, Perry, Langdon, Clark, Middleton, Potts, and Pratt; Majors Sawyer, Dieksueon, Bird, Rubbell, Andrews, and Hoskins; Capts. Wharton, Ward, Sanno, and Snyder; Lieuts. Jaquess and Hasse, and the Hon. G. H. Yeamans.

Lieut. Totten began his address by defining the word "strategos," which he said was derived from the Greek words *stratos*, an enemy, and *ago*, to lead, which was also the title of an Athenian General officer. In its secondary meaning, Strategos was a surname of the Athenians, and finally chosen by vote for the purpose of conducting the Grecian War Department at home, as a council or home board of war. From this class were derived some of the modern military terms, such as strategy. The word strategy had been defined by Baron Jomini as "the art of making war upon the map, and the game of strategos was created as a means of familiarizing the student with the art of making war, by giving him the semblance of an army by means of maps. Lieut. Totten thought the game of "strategos" was more comprehensive than the German game of "Kriegsspiel," or the English game of Attenhofer's, both of which are famous games among foreign soldiers. These foreign games were only designed for the use of the most advanced members of the military profession, and had little in common with the ordinary soldier or the private military student; while the American game, however, presented absorbing interest for every grade in the Army while in its most advanced application it embodied all the important features of the foreign games, besides introducing many noticeable improvements in both of them. Chess, which was played 600 years ago, was in reality only a game of tactics, in which the combined forces of various arms were brought into action, and the game of draughts had existed for centuries before the advent of chess. In the time of Louis XV. two distinct games were played in military circles, but they did not apparently bear any resemblance to the modern war game. "Kriegsspiel" might be said to be the father of the modern games of war. This game had been played in the Prussian Army for half a century, and in 1824 it attracted the attention of the officers of the English Army. Having procured them for by way of introduction, Lieut. Totten began an explanation of the game, commencing with the tactical stage, which he said provided all the requirements of "dummy" instruction, and from the simple squad or detachment, up through the companies, batteries, squadrons, battalions, and regiments to the army corps. Considered as a practical formation, it afforded ready means of practical and unlimited elucidation never before offered to the military profession. The pieces used were small oblong and circular pieces of slate, of red and blue distinctive colors, on which could be written the number or name of the object, thus giving a complete record of the command. Each piece, otherwise, where a large number of pieces was to be used for the purpose of illustrating complicated movements in the schools of the company or the battalion. Larger pieces were shown for illustrating columns of fours, platoons, and company front. These diagrams were representing movements of the day were the various editions of tactics used from the year 1622 to Upton's latest revision of the tactics. On the opposite side of the blocks were topographical features, representing mountains, rivers, and other features of the country. These diagrams and pieces were adapted to the illustration of every tactical and strategic study, such as Jomini, Hamley, Wolseley, Halleck, Duffour, Maker, &c. By the use of the game there would be no difficulty in representing the various ancient and modern armies, and accurately delineating their multifarious movements. Battles and campaigns could be analyzed with its assistance, and followed step by step in detail, by any student in a manner which it would be utterly impossible to realize even with the most extensive system of maps and diagrams. From this general description the speaker turned to the "battle" game, which was separately displayed on a table previously alluded to. The manipulators of the opposing armies were separated by a heavy curtain extending across the table. This game, he said, was a compromise between a form of amusement and a study. Its rules conspired toward concentration and arrangement of the men, rather than movements of offense and defense. A good way to make the game interesting for two players on opposite sides is to take a well-known battle and arrange their respective armies in conformity to the history. From that point let each man move his army as far as the movements are narrated in history, and then let each commander act for himself. The advanced game was briefly described by the lecturer, who expressed the use of the plaster of Paris undulating surface, yet where this was not easily to be obtained, a surface might be sketched on the slated board.

"For the first time," the Lieutenant said, "we come in contact with the game of 'kriegspiel,' in this branch all arbitrary assignments of values and moves were, of course, entirely out of the question and improper. The whole game was required to base itself upon actualities, and the result of careful investigations and tabulated statistics of experience of former battles and campaigns. Everything in such a game must be submitted to the most searching military scrutiny, and nothing could be allowed upon the board which did not conform to the very best military information possessed and attainable. The progress of the game is noted in actual time, such as minutes, hours, days and months, instead of by the mere movement of the pieces. To keep track of the game as thus played, a board similar to a cribbage-board was used, the columns of figures being headed, "minutes," "hours," "days," and "months." It considered this an improvement on "kriegspiel," where everything was done by moves, as for instance, a bridge is built in "four moves," while in "strategos," it is constructed in 10 minutes. In the latter game, too, the distances were all given in tables of yards and paces. The speaker next proposed a series of tabulated forms of casualty, memoranda of losses, and the results of casting "a single die," in "hand-to-hand" conflicts. The chances of success and liabilities to loss were set forth under the spots on a die from the ace to five spots, while in other similar columns were shown the "results of victory" and the "consequences of defeat." At the close of this paper, a vote of thanks was tendered to Lieut. Totten, and the meeting was adjourned.

EX-KEEPER JOHN MORTON.

In November, John Morton, a keeper in the City Prison, was dismissed on the complaint of Warden Finn, for complicity in a plot to intimidate Watchman Shevelin, one of the witnesses in the Manhattan Bank burglary case. Since his disgrace he has hovered about the prison and has frequently threatened the keepers and Warden Finn with violence. He has been drinking steadily, and yesterday afternoon, while under the influence of liquor, he walked unsteadily into the Warden's office, just as the Warden came from the interior of the prison, and declared that Mrs. Finn had insulted him. The Warden told him to go away, when Morton turned upon him and cried, "I'll get even with you yet; I'll blow the whole head off you, at the same moment he struck the Warden in the chest. The man grappled, and Morton was thrown to the floor. Morton was arrested and charged with having committed an assault. Justice Morgan committed him in default of $360 bail, to await trial. As Officer Hart was taking him down to the prison, Morton again caught sight of the Warden, who was standing talking with a gentleman, and with his head turned. He struck at Gerrity, but Hart, who was about suddenly and held him off at arms' length. When in the prison yard, Keeper Hennessy walked near him. Morton has always thought that Hennessy is the one who revealed his part in the conspiracy with the burglars. The instant he saw Hennessy he struck him in the face. Hennessy, however, struck him three times in rapid succession, and took all the spirit of fight out of him.

SPINOLA'S STEAM-HEATING PROJECT.

The Commissioners of the Sinking Fund met yesterday. All the members, consisting of Mayor Cooper, Controller Kelly, Chamberlain Tappen, and Aldermen Haggerty and Speir, were present. A resolution was offered directing the Controller to execute a deed to Gen. Francis B. Spinola and his associates authority to lay steam-heating mains in the streets south of Canal-street in accordance with the agreement approved by the board in July last. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 3 to 1, Mayor Cooper voting in the negative. The board then authorized the Controller to redeem bonds amounting to $233,483 which will fall due on Jan. 10, 1880, and which were issued to pay armory claims, &c.

A CUSTOM-HOUSE SUIT.

A few weeks since a suit was begun by the Government against Julius B. Pingé, of the Broadway firm of Pingé & Pingé, kid glove importers, by service of summons for the recovery of a sum of money alleged to be due to the United States as duties on goods imported by the defendant and passed through the Custom-House at an invoice undervaluation. The defendant is also under bail in criminal proceedings based on similar transactions. Yesterday United States Attorney Woodford filed a formal complaint in civil action, in which the amount sued for is specifically fixed at $620,217 56, inclusive of the penalties prescribed for each violation of the law charged against the defendant. The period over which the alleged fraudulent operations extended is said to have been from Jan. 5, 1878, to March 3, 1879. Appended to the complaint is a set of schedules defining all the various importations of the firm for that period in which undervaluations appear.

THE ASTOR HOUSE PROPERTY.

BEGINNING A SUIT FOR ITS PARTITION AMONG THE HEIRS.

A suit for the partition of the Astor House property has been begun in the Supreme Court. The plaintiffs are John Jacob Astor and William Astor, and the defendants are Messrs. Charles F. Southmayd, Franklin H. Delano, and James F. Chamberlain, Trustees of the interest of Henry Astor in the premises. Henry Astor, and his wife Melvina, William Astor, and his wife Charlotte Augusta, Franklin H. Delano, and his wife Laura, John Carey, Jr., and his wife Alida, and 30 others, all children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren of the late William B. Astor, son of the founder of the Astor family in this country. On the 28th of January, 1834, John Jacob Astor conveyed the premises to his son William B. Astor to hold during his lifetime, with the stipulation that at his death it should go to such of his sons as should survive him, "share and share alike, and to their heirs and assigns forever." When William B. Astor died, Nov. 24, 1875, he left three sons, John Jacob, William, and Henry Astor. Six years before that event, on the 15th of February, 1869, Henry Astor granted his interest in the premises, and whatever interests in them he should acquire in the future, to John Jacob and William Astor and Charles F. Southmayd as Trustees, directing them to apply the proceeds to the use during his lifetime. And at his death, if he should leave no issue, to convey the capital of the trust estate to his surviving brothers and sisters, excepting John Jacob Astor, and the issue of such of his brothers and sisters as died before him. The final division among these heirs is to be effected to be per stirpes and not capita. John Jacob Astor resigned his Trusteeship in May, 1872, and William Astor followed his example in the same month. Franklin H. Delano, a son-in-law of the late William B. Astor, and James F. Chamberlain were chosen to succeed them. Henry Astor and his wife are both living, without children. As the interest of Henry Astor in the Astor House property must, therefore, eventually be conveyed to, and be distributed among, his surviving brothers and sisters, and the families of such of his brothers and sisters as may die before him—always excepting the plaintiffs, John Jacob Astor—it is thought well by the plaintiffs to have the estate partitioned at once to prevent trouble in the future. They therefore pray the Supreme Court for the appointment of Commissioners to partition the premises, or, in case an equitable partition cannot be made, to sell the estate and divide the proceeds in proportion. Messrs. Lord, Day & Lord, the attorneys for the plaintiffs, yesterday obtained from Judge Van Vorst, in Supreme Court, Chambers, an order for the service of the summons by publication, upon some of the defendants, who are absent from the country.

THE WILL OF A MILLIONAIRE.

The will of the late Alexander Stuart, the millionaire sugar refiner of this City, was admitted to probate in the office of the Surrogate yesterday.

The entire document is contained on a single page of foolscap paper, and is neatly drafted in the handwriting of the testator throughout. It reads as follows:

In the name of God, Amen. I, Alexander Stuart, of the City of New-York, do make this, in my own handwriting, my last will and testament, viz.: I give, devise, and bequeath all my estate, both real and personal, of every kind or wheresoever situated, of which I may be possessed at the time of my decease unto my brother, Robert L. Stuart, of the City of New-York, sugar refiner, to have and to hold the same unto him, his heirs, administrators, and assigns, forever, and I do hereby nominate, constitute, and appoint my brother, Robert L. Stuart, sole Executor of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 22d day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine.

ALEXANDER STUART.

The execution of the will was witnessed by five persons, as follows: Isaac Surrough, No. 247 West Fourth-street, New-York City; George C. Shayues No. 337 Broadway, Paterson, N. J.; J. W. Littlefield, No. 279 Court-street, Brooklyn, N. Y.; William Deems, Jr., No. 329 West Fourteenth-street, New-York City; John C. Ridley, No. 198 President-street, Brooklyn, N. Y. The estate disposed of by this will is variously estimated at from $5,000,000 to $10,000,000.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE.

The steam-ship Germanic, of the White Star Line, will sail for Europe to-day with 75 cabin passengers, among whom are Mr. John Prim, a son of the celebrated Spanish General of that name, who was assassinated several years ago; the Rev. Dr. Charles F. Deems, of the Church of the Strangers; Dr. Hugo Lenn, and Capt. Joseph L. Berkwich. The saloon list contains the following names:

Judson Shute, J. M. Sowen, B. Walkenshaw, Gordon C. Lear, William Barron, Master Eustace Barron, James C. Kay, Edward Shepherd, J. T. Hurrell, Samuel Sondheim, John Prim, E. De Burka, George W. Manlier, Charles Stead, Rev. Dr. Deems, Rev. F. H. Parvo, D. C. Davidson, Mrs. Davidson, Charles A. Reed, Mrs. B. M. Sawyer, Berkwich, Mrs. G. T. T. Reed, H. B. Brimmer, Dr. P. C. Van Wyck, Capt. Joseph L. Berkwich, J. Winslow Jones, W. W. Hammersley, P. Lear, T. S. Moses, Dr. John Miller, A. G. Coolidge, Mrs. R. P. Wilkins and child, Samuel Schwab, James Naser, Dr. Hugo Lenn, Thomas Blakey, R. S. H. Good, A. W. Iacoubs, E. W. Buckley, Arthur Minico and child, A. N. Cohen, L. Lewis, Walker, Frank Walker, A. J. Johnson, Mrs. Stevenson, Mrs. Purod, Henry Brown, H. E. Collins, Mrs. Collins, Henry D. Lovis, R. R. Beverridge, H. W. Holbrook, Frank B. Steele, J. W. Hoffman, P. W. Watkins, James McWhister, J. M. Ringo, Donald Cameron, John G. Traveiyan, Fred W. Satterlee, W. H. Justice, Capt. William Hargie, Homer Reed, Mrs. C. H. George and child, Miss A. Adam, E. Cooper, George Brownell, John Hughes, Mrs. Hughes and two children, the Rev. Dr. Charles F. Deems.

DISABLED STEAM-SHIPS.

The disabled steam-ship Clyde, which left Norfolk, in tow of the ocean steam-tug Cyclops, on the 27th, arrived yesterday. She left this port for Aspinwall on the 10th, and when off Hatteras her propeller was lost, her shaft broken, and her engines damaged. She was sighted by the steam-ship Blackstone, which took her in tow and brought her to Fortress Monroe on the 14th. She was taken to Norfolk, where she was placed on the Government dock. Her cargo was sent on by another vessel. New boilers will be placed in her, and she will be thoroughly repaired here.

The steam-ship Main, which arrived from Bremen yesterday, met with very heavy westerly gales and high seas during the entire passage. Stormy weather was experienced by the State of Pennsylvania, of the State Line, which also arrived yesterday. She was 15 days in coming from Larne. The City of Richmond, of the Inman Line, which has a new propeller, and was towed into Halifax by the Circassia, arrived yesterday. She has received a new propeller, and she will at once resume her place in the Inman fleet.

A NEW COUNTY FOR LONG ISLAND.

A meeting of the advocates of the formation of a new county on Long Island, to be known as Nassau County, was held in Garden City yesterday, Mr. Benjamin D. Hicks presiding, and Mr. Isaac D. Cocks acting as Secretary. There were present from Queens County Benjamin D. Hicks and Isaac D. Cocks, of North Hempstead, and Eugene M. Lincoln, of Oyster Bay; and from Suffolk County, D. S. S. Sammis, T. M. Foster, and James R. Cooper, of Babylon, and Charles S. Street, of Huntington. During the proceedings a delegation from Hicksville appeared, headed by Mr. De Langrillette. In the discussion which took place, the residents of Suffolk County manifested considerable enthusiasm. The opinion prevailed that the Representative-elect to the Legislature were favorable to the project. A resolution was adopted urging the expediency of the step, and suggesting that the boundaries remain the same as specified in the act of 1877. Officers were then elected, and the Executive Committee was instructed to prepare an address to the people who reside within the boundaries of the proposed county.

A HANDSOME POSTAL CARD.

It has been a custom for several years past among the officers and employes of many of the leading Post Offices in this country to exchange New Year's cards of ornamental design conveying from one office to the other a seasonable compliment. The card issued this year by the officers of the General Post Office in this City is a handsome and unique affair, lithographed in colors, and elaborate in design. The centre cut is a view of the Post Office Building, flanked on one side by a mail train and on the other by a steam-ship. Below the centre-piece is a vignette portrait of Postmaster James. In the corners are a carrier pigeon, an old-time mail-carrier on horseback, an Indian scurier, a modern four-horse mail wagon, a group of mail-bags, and various other emblems of the service. On the top of the card is the legend: "A fraternal greeting from the New York Post Office, 1880." On the back of the card is printed the names of the Postmaster and the principal officers of the service in this City.

A GERMAN SHIP WRECKED.

Theodore Ruger, of No. 5 William-street, the agent here of the German ship Leda, Capt. Schaffmeyer, which sailed from this port on Dec. 6, has received information that the vessel went ashore at Goodwin Sands on Sunday last, and will probably prove a total wreck. The Captain and crew escaped and have landed at Deal. Her cargo consisted of 6,362 barrels of refined petroleum, which had been shipped by Mayer Brothers & Co. of this City. The ship was built at Richmond, Me., in 1868, and was owned by D. Schilling, of Bremen. Her measurement was 1,000 tons. She was valued at $45,000, while the cargo was worth about $36,000. Both were insured.

BORN, MARRIED, AND DIED

A YEAR'S RECORD IN THIS CITY.

REPORT OF THE BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS—AN INCREASED MORTALITY FOR 1879—MATRIMONIAL STATISTICS.

From the 1st of January, 1879, up to the close of business yesterday there were reported at the Bureau of Vital Statistics 28,224 deaths. The total number of deaths in 1878 was 27,009; in 1877, 26,203, and in 1876, 29,152. Of the persons who died, 7,406 were children under 1 year, 12,608 were under 5 years, 97 were over 90, and 91 over 100 years; 14,475 were males, and 13,749 were females; 6,206 were married, 3,227 single, and 3,133 were widows. The deaths in tenement-houses numbered 14,975, and 7,926 deaths occurred in houses containing three families or less. In hotels and boarding-houses 300 deaths occurred, and 377 persons were found dead in the river and on the streets and other public places. Of the dead, 18,309 were natives of the United States, and 462 were colored. Dr. Nagle, the Registrar, says that the records, when completed to the end of the year, will show an increase of about 1,200 as compared with 1878, while the births will show a decrease of about 400, and the marriages an increase of 750. The increase in the mortality is mainly due to deaths from scarlatina and from pneumonia and bronchitis. There is a marked decrease, however, in the deaths from consumption, but small-pox shows an increase of 24 over last year. This disease prevailed chiefly among the Bohemian cigar-makers in the Eleventh and Seventeenth Wards. The estimated population of the City is 1,097,563, and on this basis the death-rate for the year is 25.8 per 1,000.

The principal causes of the deaths for the past three years were as follows:

Causes of Death.	1879.	1878.	1877.
Total mortality	28,224	27,008	26,203
Zymotic diseases	8,674	7,648	8,042
Constitutional diseases	6,319	6,436	5,800
Local diseases	10,616	10,219	9,720
Developmental diseases	1,835	1,701	1,762
Deaths by violence	1,075	1,070	1,026
Small-pox	26	2	14
Measles	246	272	155
Scarlatina	1,486	1,000	1,251
Diphtheria	677	1,007	951
Croup	719	499	472
Whooping-cough	535	382	440
Erysipelas	146	145	126
Typhus fever	4	4	17
Typhoid fever	178	945	275
Miasmatic fever	202	361	213
Puerperal diseases	330	300	298
Yellow fever	2	97	115
Cerebro-spinal fever	110	97	115
Diarrheal diseases	2,035	2,045	2,557
Diarrheal diseases under 5 years	2,575	2,598	2,187
Alcoholism	197	127	100
Rheumatism and gout	159	140	145
Cancer	661	616	604
Consumption	4,291	4,459	4,044
Bronchitis	1,247	1,184	1,033
Pneumonia	2,650	2,288	2,143
Heart diseases	1,195	1,089	987
Marasmus and scrofula	660	588	533
Hydrocephalus	495	604	514
Meningitis	540	612	600
Convulsions	664	630	601
Disease of the liver	22	22	21
Apoplexy	497	447	350
All diseases of brain and nervous system	3,640	3,410	3,278
Bright's disease	1,190	1,161	1,139
Premature births	654	578	545
Suicides	121	142	148
Drowning	143	185	194

The total number of marriages recorded was 8,402. Of the grooms, 8,195 were white and 207 were colored, and of the brides, 8,204 were white and 198 were colored; 6,553 males and 6,792 females were married for the first time, 1,266 males and 1,090 females were married for the second time, 92 males and 25 females were married for the third time, and 1 male and 3 females had sufficient courage to marry for a fourth time. One hundred and eighty-three grooms and 2,064 brides were under 20 years of age, 2,849 grooms and 2,403 brides were between 20 and 25 years old; 1,119 grooms and 35 brides were between 50 and 55 years old; 69 grooms and 10 brides were between 55 and 60; 30 grooms and 5 brides were between 60 and 65; 22 grooms and 2 brides were between 65 and 70; 14 grooms were between 70 and 80; and one groom was over 80 years old. Of 8,862 grooms and 8,706 brides were natives; 791 grooms and 843 brides were of Irish birth; 2,146 grooms and 1,572 brides were born in Germany; 258 brides and 322 grooms were born in England; 1 groom and 2 brides were born in China, and 1 groom was a New-Zealander.

The total number of births recorded was 25,231. Of the children born, 24,808 were white and 423 colored; 13,037 were males and 12,104 were females. Of 18,836 children born, both parents were of foreign birth, and of 1,372 the mother alone was of foreign birth. Three of the mothers who gave birth to children during the year were under 15 years of age, and one of these is recorded as being but 13 years old. 1,272 of the mothers were between 15 and 20 years; 5,481 were between 20 to 25 years; 6,508 between 25 and 30 years; 5,288 between 30 and 35 years, 3,425 between 35 and 40 years; 1,202 between 40 and 45 years; 150 between 45 and 50 years, and 3 were over 50 years of age.

The following table shows the births, marriages, deaths, and still-births for 1879 by months:

	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Still-births.
January	2,140	673	2,695	123
February	2,177	589	2,269	152
March	2,539	630	2,573	192
April	1,812	664	2,239	167
May	1,849	754	2,186	201
June	1,763	765	2,098	151
July	2,001	615	3,118	205
August	2,274	515	2,463	179
September	2,249	717	2,169	215
October	2,276	976	2,215	161
November	2,081	885	2,191	180
December	2,161	729	2,041	181
Total	25,231	8,402	28,224	2,191

EXPLORING AFRICA.

THE LATEST PORTUGUESE EFFORTS IN THE PROVINCE OF ANGOLA.

Lisbon Correspondence of the London Standard.

I have already forwarded a summary of the official report remitted to the Minister of Marine, Marquis de Sabarosa, by the African explorers, Senhores Capello and Ivens. The following is the translation *in extenso* of the interesting official report, dated Loanda, 24th October, 1879:

YOUR EXCELLENCY: While delivering into your hands the present report, we have the honor to inform you that we are now in the town of Loanda, having arrived here on the 24th inst., thus terminating our commission into the interior.

We are happy to inform your Excellency that the instructions of his Majesty's Government were not only constantly observed by us, and carried out as completely as they could have been under such exceptional circumstances, but after a great number of important problems relative to the general map of the Province of Angola, and which will be of great avail in the reconstruction of the said map, have been completely solved. It was in consequence of the special direction that our labors were to take that, after traversing the Province from the South to the North, we should go to Bihé, after having seen the rivers Quanza, Cunene, the Quango and its head-waters, and part of the course of the Cuiba; after having surveyed the approximate course of the Loanda, discovered the sources of the last-mentioned river, and likewise those of the Luando, Quango, Chicapa, and Okassi; and after having determined important points on this side of the Quango, &c., that we began to descend the Quange River as far as the bush of Iaca, an extensive region which, lying to the south of the latitude of Benguella and the seventh parallel. We then turned toward the Province with the view of employing our remaining time and resources in making surveys, of which the said Province stood greatly in need, in the region of the north, to the east and west of the Quango. We discovered a great number of rivers, affluents of the Quango, their banks being peopled by very savage tribes, unacquainted with Europeans, and inclined to be hostile to any that came in their way. The hostility of those tribes greatly interfered with our labors, which might have been more extensively executed were it not for the difficulties arising from their opposition. While submitting to your Excellency's high consideration this brief exposition of our labors, which the precarious state of our health does not permit us to develop more largely, we beg to be allowed to state that the map of the Provinces of Angola, and more especially toward the interior, stood in need of important rectifications, to which all our attention was directed at the close of our commission, and which rectifications may, notwithstanding, be rendered more complete by future surveys.

We think, your Excellency, that under these circumstances we have fulfilled the orders given us by superior authority, and having thus rendered the services that we have above stated, we have corresponded in some measure to the high confidence which his Majesty's Government deigned to place in us. God guard your Excellency.

HERMENEGILDO DE BRITO CAPELLO.
ROBERTO IVENS.

LOANDA, Oct. 24, 1879.

The *Commercio da Lisbon*, the proprietor of which is Secretary to the Lisbon Geographical Society, says:

"We know that the intrepid explorer, Major Serpa Pinto has asked for, or is about to ask for, his dismissal from the Army, as he wishes to retire from public and official life. We are the more surprised at this as it seems impossible that the Government should not have already resolved on defining the position of the illustrious explorer."

THE DESCENDANTS OF COLUMBUS.

From the London Telegraph, Dec. 16.

King Alfonso's wedding furnishes food for serious reflections. At the banquet-table there stood no ghost of Alonzo or any other such uncomfortable and unbidden guest, but alive and well, as the King's Chamberlain, dressed in State bib and tucker, wearing a State sword, and clothed in a stately and courtly smile, no less a person than Don Diego Columbus, the direct descendant of Christopher long since defunct. When thoughts passed through the royal mind as Don Diego attended at the marriage-table, are not recorded. Perhaps Alfonso was pondering over the future, and had left the past to take care of itself. But if he had given the presence of the Chamberlain any consideration at all, it might have occurred to him that it would be well if the descendants of the great mariner could, in some sort of way, relieve Spain of one of the troubles which the adventurous seaman's wanderings bequeathed to her. In the crown which sits upon Alfonso's head something of the kind just now would be a jewel even more brightly than that of Cuba. Unhappily, how even for the peace of the Spanish monarch, that brilliant has a melancholy trick of sparkling in a very erratic and often painful fashion. Don Diego's great ancestor was, if not the direct, yet the indirect means of placing it there, and if the Columbus who stood at the banquet in Ave Maria-lane could tell the King how that diamond's eccentricities could be controlled, Christopher Columbus, his cousin, yet alive and an Admiral in the Iberian fleet, and Fernando, yet another cousin, might be forthwith dispatched to the Indies to try their skill.

FIFTY YEARS AT ALBANY.

REMINISCENCES OF THE LATE GEORGE W. BULL.

The Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser* reproduces from its own columns the following interesting letter written 10 months ago by Mr. George W. Bull, whose death has just occurred:

ALBANY, Feb. 17, 1879.

The Legislature not being in session to-day, and the city consequently dull, your correspondent takes the opportunity to indulge in some personal reminiscences brought to mind by the recent commemoration by the two houses of the departure of the Legislature from the old Capitol to the new, when he listened with gratification to the addresses of Messrs. Dorsheimer, Brooks, and Alvord; the latter especially awakening to memory many scenes he had witnessed in the old building, which he entered to look upon the Legislature of our State for the first time in his life, on the 11th day of March, 1828—50 years ago! Then the Senate occupied the room adjoining the Assembly Chamber on the south side, recently known as the Sergeant-at-Arms's Room and Post Office of the Assembly, and now occupied by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Martin Van Buren was then Governor, and Enos T. Throop was Lieutenant-Governor, and presided over the Senate. Mr. Van Buren, who had been elected Governor in November, 1828, resigned while I was in Albany, to take the position of Secretary of State under Gen. Jackson. Mr. Throop thereupon became Governor, and William M. Oliver, of County, was made President pro tem. of the Senate. Peter Robinson, of Broome County, was that year Speaker of the Assembly.

I had the pleasure of a personal introduction to Gov. DeWitt Clinton, in 1827, and have also since known, I will not say intimately, but quite well, each one of our Governors from that time to this, viz.: Martin Van Buren, Enos T. Throop, William L. Marcy, William H. Seward, William C. Bouck, Silas Wright, John Young, Hamilton Fish, Washington Hunt, Horatio Seymour, Myron H. Clark, John A. King, Edwin D. Morgan, Reuben E. Fenton, John T. Hoffman, John A. Dix, Samuel J. Tilden, and Lucius Robinson—19 of our Governors, while in active service. I have also seen presiding over the Senate, Lieut.-Govs. Enos T. Throop, Edward P. Livingston, John Tracy, Luther Bradish, Daniel S. Dickinson, Addison Gardiner, Hamilton Fish, George W. Patterson, Sanford E. Church, Henry J. Raymond, Henry R. Selden, Robert Campbell, Daniel B. Floyd-Jones, Thomas G. Alvord, Stewart L. Woodford, Allen C. Beach, John C. Robinson, and William Dorsheimer.

Presiding over the Assembly as Speakers I have seen Peter Robinson, of Broome County; George R. Davis, of Rensselaer; Charles L. Livingston, of New-York; William Baker, of Otsego; Luther Bradish, of Franklin; George W. Patterson, of Livingston; Peter P. Porter, Jr., of Niagara; Levi S. Chatfield, of Otsego; Elisha Litchfield, of Onondaga; Horatio Seymour, of Oneida; William C. Grain, of Cayuga; Herkimer; William C. Hasbrouck, of Orange; Amos K. Hadley, of Rensselaer; Nobles S. Elderkin, of St. Lawrence; Henry J. Raymond, of New-York; Jonas C. Heartt, of Rensselaer; William C. Ludlow, of Suffolk; Robert H. Pruyn, of Albany; Dewitt C. Littlejohn, of Onondaga; Orville Robinson, of Oswego; Thomas G. Alvord, of Onondaga; Theophilus C. Callicott, of Kings; George C. Hoskins, of Wyoming; Lyman Tremain, of Albany; Edmund L. Pitts, of Orleans; William Hitchman, of New-York; Truman G. Youngiove, of Saratoga; Henry Smith, of Albany; Alonzo B. Cornell, of New-York; James W. Husted, of Westchester; Jeremiah Maguire, of Chemung, and George B. Sloan, of Oswego.

This is the thirty-first Winter in which I have spent the whole session here in Albany—my twenty-fourth consecutive whole session, and the forty-fifth Winter in which I have passed more or less time at the annual session here. I have in that time participated in the canvass for United States Senator many times, occasionally have taken an active part, and I have not missed the election to that high position of Daniel S. Dickinson, John A. Dix, William L. Marcy, Silas Wright, Hamilton Fish, Preston King, Ira Harris, Edwin D. Morgan, Roscoe Conkling (three times,) Reuben E. Fenton, and Francis Kernan.

How many of the thousands present in the new Capitol last Wednesday night, listening to those speeches, think you, have had the long experience? How many of the thousands that came to Albany during the session of the Legislature have personally known 19 of our Governors?

I have been often urged by my friends to "write a book," giving some of my experiences of men and things here. Old Mr. Job, in his extreme pain, exclaimed: "Oh, that mine enemy would write a book!" Probably, the old man wished for a chance to criticise him more to his friends—for anyone, mine, if I have such, shall ever get a chance to criticise such a book of my writing. I can look back upon a great many laughable occurrences here, and some that were the reverse, but on the whole, these many Winters in Albany have been pleasant and the most I have ever given to hard work. During all these months ever since 1847 my energies have never flagged in promoting whatever was for the real interests of Buffalo, and, although there has been no tangible recognition of my services, I have the satisfaction of knowing that my work in that direction has met my own approval.

Fifty years ago! 'Tis a long while to look back upon, but from the old Capitol, fifty years ago, was my first letter for publication in a newspaper written, and from that time to this, with slight intermissions, I have been connected with newspaper journalism, and in all that time I do not recollect having "written one line, which dying, I would wish to blot."

I do not think it is egotism to say that, with the exception of the venerable Thurlow Weed, your correspondent has known and now knows more of the public men of this State than any one who comes to Albany. And now, in view of this long experience, let me ask who has the claim among all here to be recognized as the veteran correspondent?

I am not the Pope's, but I am, respectfully, the *Commercial's* TAURUS.

A PLEASANT LETTER FROM MR. WHITTIER.

From the Cincinnati Commercial, Dec. 27.

The following letter from Mr. Whittier was addressed to the Superintendent of the Cincinnati Schools, with reference to the honors recently paid the poet's birthday:

DANVERS, Mass., Twelfth month, 23d, 1879.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I have read with surprise and pleasure the account of the celebration of my birthday in the schools of Cincinnati. I am glad to be thus remembered by the young people who must so long take the places of the men and women of the present time. I have somewhere seen it stated that Bernardin St. Pierre, the author of "Paul and Virginia," read the manuscript of his wonderful story to a select company of literary men, who heard it coldly and with no word of approval. He was grieved and disappointed, but when some of the young children whom he loved called on him, he read it to them, and they were delighted with it. Encouraged by this he published the story, and it is now a French classic, has been translated into all languages and is read and admired by many of them are boys and girls in the world. For myself, as an author, I have, perhaps, been better treated by the public than I deserved, but if I ever feel myself too severely censured by older critics, I shall appeal from their judgment to my young friends by the Beautiful River of the West. Let me say that I am glad to find the son of my old neighbor so worthily filling the responsible position of Superintendent of the Schools of one of the great cities of the Union. I am, very truly thy friend,

JOHN G. WHITTIER.

THE COTTON MARKETS.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 29.—Cotton steady; fair demand; Middling, 12¼c.; net receipts, 6,633 bales; gross, 7,621 bales; exports, to Great Britain, 7,812 bales; to France, 2,938 bales; coastwise, 2,881 bales; sales, 3,000 bales; stock, 236,633 bales.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 29.—Cotton steady; fair demand; Middling, 12¼c.@12⅝c.; Low Middling, 12c.; Good Ordinary, 11⅜c.; net receipts, 2,672 bales; exports, to Great Britain, 1,950 bales; coastwise, 4,115 bales; sales, 1,000 bales; stock, 67,700 bales.

SAVANNAH, Dec. 29.—Cotton easy; Middling, 12¼c.; Low Middling, 11¾c.; Good Ordinary, 11¼c.; net receipts, 3,324 bales; gross, 3,370 bales; exports, coastwise, 44 bales; sales, 2,000 bales; last evening, 800 bales; stock, 103,024 bales.

MOBILE, Dec. 29.—Cotton steady; Middling, 11¾c.; Low Middling, 11¼c.@11⅝c.; Good Ordinary, 10⅞c.@11⅛c.; net receipts, 4,397 bales; gross, 4,436 bales; exports, coastwise, 1,363 bales; sales, 2,000 bales; stock, 59,494 bales.

NEWBERRY, Dec. 29.—Cotton firm; Middling, 11¾c.; Low Middling, 11c.; Good Ordinary, 10¾c.; Weekly—Receipts, 707 bales; shipments, 604 bales; sales, 804 bales; stock, 874 bales.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 29.—Cotton unchanged; Middling, 12c.; Low Middling, 11¾c.; Good Ordinary, 11⅝c.; receipts, 3,936 bales; shipments, 4,762 bales; stock, 71,328 bales.

AUGUSTA, Dec. 29.—Cotton quiet and firm; Middling, 11⅝c.@11¾c.; Low Middling, 11¼c.; Good Ordinary, 10¾c.; receipts, 280 bales; sales, 687 bales.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 29.—Cotton firm; Middling, 11¾c.; receipts, 3,131 bales; shipments, 3,882 bales; sales, 900 bales; stock, 119,975 bales.

GALVESTON, D

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BOARD WANTED—Seventh Page—5th col.
BOARDING AND LODGING—Seventh Page—5th col.
BROOKLYN REAL ESTATE—Seventh Page—2d col.
BUSINESS NOTICES—Fifth Page—6th col.
CITY ITEMS—Fifth Page—6th col.
CITY REAL ESTATE—Seventh Page—1st col.
COUNTRY HOUSES TO LET—Seventh Page—2d col.
DANCING—Sixth Page—5th col.
DEATHS—Fifth Page—5th col.
DIVIDENDS—Seventh Page—2d and 4th cols.
ELECTIONS—Seventh Page—6th col.
FINANCIAL—Seventh Page—2d and 3d cols.
FURNISHED ROOMS—Seventh Page—5th col.
GRATES AND FENDERS—Sixth Page—6th col.
HELP WANTED—Sixth Page—5th col.
HOLIDAY GOODS—Sixth Page—5th col.
HORSES, CARRIAGES, &c.—Seventh Page—5th col.
INSTRUCTION—Seventh Page—7th col.
LOST AND FOUND—Sixth Page—6th col.
MARRIAGES—Fifth Page—6th col.
MISCELLANEOUS—Sixth Page—6th col.
MUSICAL—Sixth Page—6th col.
NEW PUBLICATIONS—Fifth Page—7th col.
PROPOSALS—Seventh Page—5th col.
RAILROADS—Sixth Page—6th col.
REAL ESTATE WANTED—Seventh Page—1st col.
RELIGIOUS NOTICES—Seventh Page—7th col.
ROOMS WANTED—Seventh Page—6th col.
SAVINGS BANKS—Seventh Page—5th col.
SHIPPING—Sixth Page—7th col.
SITUATIONS WANTED—Sixth Page—5th col.
SPECIAL NOTICES—Fifth Page—7th col.
STATIONERY—Sixth Page—6th col.
STEAMBOATS—Sixth Page—6th col.
STORES, &c. TO LET—Seventh Page—1st col.
SURROGATE NOTICES—Sixth Page—7th col.
TEACHERS—Seventh Page—7th col.
WATCHES, JEWELRY, &c.—Sixth Page—5th col.
WINTER RESORTS—Seventh Page—5th col.

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, DEC. 30, 1879.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Cosmut, Pantomime, &c.
WALLACK'S THEATRE—Side Scoops to Conquer.
UNION-SQUARE THEATRE—French Flats.
DALY'S THEATRE—An Arabian Night.
PARK THEATRE—Pawnee.
HAVERLY'S THEATRE—The Gallant Slave.
NIBLO'S GARDEN—Heads or Steel.
BROADWAY OPERA-HOUSE—The Streathmores.
THEATRE COMIQUE—Mulligan Guards' Christmas.
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS—Variety.
STANDARD THEATRE—Princess Toto.
THE AQUARIUM—Uncle Tom's Cabin. Matinée.
NEW-YORK CIRCUS—Humpty Dumpty. Matinée.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, author of "That Lass o' Lowrie's," "Haworth's," &c., will contribute an original story entitled "The Colonel's Daughter," and devoted to certain remarkable phases of Southern life and politics, to The Times *of Sunday next.*

☞ Advertisements for The Weekly Times must be handed in before 6 o'clock this evening.

The Signal Service Bureau report indicates for to-day, in this region, south-west to north-west winds, rising barometer, stationary or lower temperature, and partly cloudy weather.

Gen. Butler denies that he had anything to do with the theft of the Legislature in Maine. But he does "not see how the Governor and Council could have acted otherwise than they have, and strictly followed the Constitution and the laws." This is where Mr. Butler is mistaken. It may be that the Governor and his Council have not expressly violated the letter of the Constitution; but there is nothing in that instrument which compelled them to do what they did. Granting that they had the discretion to throw out Republican votes—which is not true, on the pretexts which they have brought forward—they certainly were not obliged to do so. If they had chosen to give effect to the will of the people as expressed at the polls, no earthly power could have called them to account for doing so. But the case was worse than this. A law existed which would have enabled them to correct many of the formal defects which they pretend to think are "fatal." They chose to declare that law unconstitutional, thus usurping a function purely judicial. And yet Gen. Butler says the Governor is "not a Judge." It is true; but he has stolen the powers of a Judge for nefarious purposes, and is "proud" of it.

The experiment of treating with the peaceful Utes for the surrender of their hostile brethren was an experiment worth trying. It may turn out, however, that proper precautions for the safety of the negotiating party, headed by Gen. Hatch, were not taken. The whites are but a handful. They are surrounded by a host of Indians. Now that the negotiation has failed, and war seems almost inevitable, the Utes may take the initiative and Gen. Hatch's party be the first to suffer. Ouray promised to give up the Indians who were concerned in the White River fight. He has not done it, and it is probable that he cannot do it. But, if the treaty by which the Ute tribe hold their lands should imply that a surrender of any portion of the tribe guilty of making war on the whites is obligatory upon the whole tribe, it is easy to see what the result must be. The Utes must go. They hold their lands by treaty. Thus far, the Government, in its negotiations with the Utes, has appeared to consider the belligerent minority of the tribe as virtually a separate element in the discussion, for whose crimes the peaceable majority were not to be held responsible. If the guilty are not brought to justice, it is evident that punishment, direct or indirect, will overtake the whole tribe.

It is only some ten days ago since the St. Petersburg *Gazette* was permitted by the official censor to say that Russia would not break her heart in the "not improbable" event of the beleaguered English troops at Shirpur sharing the fate of Cavagnari's embassy. To-day it is reported from St. Petersburg that the greatest satisfaction would be felt in Russian official quarters if the *rapprochement* between Russia and England should be completed, of which the first step is said to have been taken in "an unusual and significant manner." The evident change of sentiment may, or may not, be due to the fact that the extermination of Gen. Roberts's column is no longer a probable event, and that the English conquest of Afghanistan has become merely a question of supplying men enough to garrison the fortresses and hold the passes of that Asiatic Switzerland. But whatever its cause, a termination of the policy of suspicion and hostility which has paralyzed the influence for good of both Russia and England wherever their interests have found a point of contact, would be a positive gain to the people of two continents, if not to the world at large. Should neither be able to quit their present grooves of statecraft, a collision which would lead to one of the greatest and least defensible wars of modern times is one of the certainties of a not distant future.

Before people have forgotten the four or five hours' jam of Broadway traffic last week, it seems rather cool on the part of the representatives of the property-owners adjoining that thoroughfare to be proceeding to test the sentiment about a surface railroad, on the assumption that theirs are the only interests to be consulted. Like other streets, Broadway is public property; the *land which it occupies was paid for out* of the City Treasury, it is maintained out of the proceeds of general taxation, and as the main artery of City traffic it was specially exempted from occupation under the provisions of the Rapid Transit law. To permit a horse-railroad to occupy Broadway below Fourteenth-street, would be equivalent to placing a tax on the commerce of New-York. It is to be hoped that a majority of the adjoining property-owners will see that their interests cannot in this matter be dissociated from those of the City at large, but if they think otherwise, there ought to be a very emphatic public veto on the abandonment of such a thoroughfare to the use of any surface railroad whatever.

The vital statistics of this City, which will be found summarized in our news columns, present some instructive results. The mortality of the City keeps pace with, if it does not advance faster than, the City's growth in population. The fact is a significant commentary on the inefficiency of a Municipal Administration which permits what should be the healthiest of the great cities of the world, and that, too, during a year marked by no epidemic form of disease, to exceed the average death-rate of the vast aggregate of people contained within the metropolitan boundaries of London. More than one-half the entire number of deaths are recorded from tenement-houses. While more than half the people of the City are of American birth, the marriage records of the year show only 3,872 native grooms out of a total of 8,402, though the native-born brides turn the scale on the other side with the number of 4,722. According to the State census of 1875, the German Empire furnished 16 per cent. of the inhabitants of the City; according to the Bureau of Vital Statistics, men of German birth represent 25 per cent. of those married during the year. The Irish, though representing 19 per cent. of the City population, furnished only 9½ per cent. of the men and 10 per cent. of the women who got married. An analysis of the birth record would doubtless tend to emphasize the facts which point to the gradual Teutonising of New-York.

WILL IT LAST?

There is no doubt that the present position of business in the United States affords our people an opportunity for a season of prosperity more real and more likely to be enduring than any which they have enjoyed in times past. It is certain that if we are reasonably prudent now, the advantages which we may reap will be beyond comparison with those which we enjoyed immediately after the civil war, when everything appeared so prosperous, because we can, if we choose, rid ourselves almost completely of the elements of risk which made the rapidly-accumulating gains of that period so illusory and so short-lived. The basis of our present situation is the very reverse of the basis of the situation at that time. Then the waste of a tremendous struggle was concealed by the operation of an inflated currency, and now the capital which we have laid up by a long period of economy and industry is sustained by a currency which is sound for the time being, and which may be made permanently sound by proper measures. And the present situation is also beyond comparison with that which existed before 1857—the most prosperous the country had then known—for many reasons. The resources of the country have enormously increased. In spite of the drawback of four years of war, with its drain on the wealth and population of both sections, the amount of productive labor now disposable in the United States is far greater, even in proportion to the population, which has greatly increased, than it then was. Machinery of every kind has multiplied and increased in variety and efficiency. Means of transportation, a very important element, have developed to an extent which of itself might well work a revolution in our commercial affairs, by the tax which it lifts from the product on its way to the consumer. The banking facilities of the country are far more extensive, far more safely and effectively organized, than they then were. Not only does the free banking system established by the Federal Government provide for the utilization of all the capital which can profitably be employed in that direction, but it surrounds it when thus employed with such safeguards, maintained by vigilant supervision under a comprehensive law, that there has not been in ten years so great direct or indirect loss from insolvent banks as occurred previous to its establishment in one year in a single State. Indeed, it may fairly be said that since the creation of the national bank system anything in the nature of even a local bank panic has been unknown. In the temporary suspension of 1873 it was not feared that the deposits in the banks had been swallowed up. The banks confined payments to certified checks to allow business men to regain their lost wits, and when they resumed ordinary methods, they were able to answer all the demands of those with whom they dealt, almost without exception. In addition to this comparative soundness of deposit banking, there is the still more perfect and more important soundness of the note issues. Whatever else may tend to disturb the even current of commercial affairs, uncertainty as to the bank currency exerts no such influence.

But we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that several of the most important elements in our present agreeable situation are not necessarily permanent, and that there are signs of the beginning of a period of speculation which may quicken their disappearance. The ease with which we have accumulated gold for the commencement of specie redemption was due to an extraordinary combination of bad crops abroad and good crops at home, creating a flow of specie in this direction which, not only may not, but cannot continue. It is inevitable that before long we shall take a large part of what balance may be due to us in goods instead of specie, and if the silver law be not repealed, our currency will steadily approach the point where gold will flow out instead of in. The only possible method by which we can retain the gold which we have so luckily got, is to make it an indispensable part of our currency, by withdrawing the legal tenders, and providing *for the constant conversion of bank* notes in gold, and by abandoning the dangerous competition between gold and depreciated silver. If we retain an arbitrary volume of Government paper, redeemable in silver, as well as gold, and continue the coinage of silver at the present rate, the disappearance of the gold, and the introduction of silver as the basis of a fluctuating currency is only a matter of time. And with a return to a fluctuating currency we shall have more or less disorder in all business affairs, more speculation, and less genuine enterprise, and constantly diminishing safety in all kinds of affairs. There is also danger from another source. We have reached a point in national development where dependence on foodstuffs as the main material for export is accompanied with great risk. The amount of such material produced is so great that a sudden change in the demand, such as is liable to occur within a year, may result in serious confusion, which will be greatly aggravated by an unsound currency. Such an event, if our currency continues to be mainly paper redeemable in silver as well as gold, would tend to a rapid drain of gold from the country, leaving the country in a most regrettable condition. The proper safeguard against this is not only the improvement of the currency, but the stimulation of exports other than foodstuffs by the reform of our Tariff laws. These interfere with foreign commerce by checking imports, since foreign commerce, as much as domestic, is normally an exchange of goods for goods, rather than of goods for money. They also check such commerce because every duty which protects one industry necessarily imposes a burden upon others, generally more extensive and important, taken together. Thus, the duty on iron is a tax on every industry in the land, since, besides the burden it lays on the raw material of all tools and machinery for export or for home use, it enters into the cost of every process of manufacture by increasing the cost of transportation and of living. A like effect, though less extensive, is exerted by the tax on ship-building material and the prohibition of foreign-built ships, by that on wool and woolens, and in a most striking fashion by the tax on copper. The further one enters on the examination of the present situation of the country the more clear it becomes that its brightest promises can only be realized by the establishment of a currency of gold and bank paper immediately convertible in gold, and by the gradual release of commerce from the fiscal laws which oppress it. Without these, all these promises may be converted into serious threats.

THE TAY BRIDGE DISASTER.

The bridge across the Frith of Tay, which fell on Sunday night, was regarded as a triumph of engineering skill. It was the longest structure of the kind in the world. The estuary, at the point where the bridge was built, is more than two miles wide. The spans were eighty-five in number, thirteen of them being nearly 250 feet from pier to pier. The widest spans were across the navigable portion of the frith, and the rails at that point were 88 feet above the surface of the water. The structure was built of iron, the supports being imbedded in sunken masses of masonry. The superstructure was braced and knitted together with iron lattice-work, that part of the bridge where the spans were widest having the lattice-work above the floor, or rails. The other portions of the work were built with the lattice below the track-level. It was thought imperatively necessary that this bridge should be built, as by it the town of Dundee and the north-eastern part of Scotland could be brought in direct connection with the North British Railway system. The bridge, which crossed the Frith of Tay about a mile and a half west of Dundee, was accordingly constructed, at an enormous cost and in the face of great difficulties. On account of the treacherous character of the bottom, it was found necessary to lay out the work in two curves having a radius of a mile and a quarter each.

It was thought that this structure would endure forever. Human skill had not reached its limit in its planning and execution, for the designer of the bridge had already in hand a scheme for the erection of a greater work across the Frith of Forth. If any curious traveler, viewing the slender iron columns rising from the foundation piers, the spider-web lattices under the open floor of the bridge, and the 245-feet girders carrying a superincumbent mass of iron-work, should have expressed his doubts of the safety of the whole, he would have been told that it was a scientific work. And this would be regarded as the end of all controversy. It was a daring thing to throw thirteen horizontal iron spans, one after another, across a navigable arm of the sea, raising a railway track 88 feet above the water on perpendicular iron columns, and building a heavy iron lattice on this. And all this, too, was across an estuary whose bed was uncertain, and up which heavy gales were liable to be driven. But the work was done; and May 31, 1879, amid great cheering, with plaudits for the successful engineer, and rejoicings over the completion of the great work, the bridge was formally opened to public travel. No timid person need feel a sinking of the heart as the trains rushed upon the structure and passengers looked down upon the tide over which they were suspended at such a giddy height. The traveler might compose himself. He was in the hands of science. The bridge was a triumph of engineering skill.

Nevertheless, that bridge is a fatal wreck. The train from Edinburgh rolled on its way across the bridge, train-man and passengers, as usual, secure in the hands of science. Nobody knows whether the vast spans of the work were in their place when the train entered the bridge. Everybody took it for granted that they were, and, though the night was not dark, it is probable that nobody thought of looking for any obstacle in the path of the train. If the passengers thought anything about the danger to which they were exposed, they took refuge in the reflection that they were in the hands of science, and that the engineers of the bridge, as well as the train-men, knew their business. Passengers cannot satisfy themselves of the safety of bridges and conveyances before they undertake their journey. They must trust themselves to men who are presumed to understand *their trade. But the vast spans of the* bridge were gone. It does not much matter whether they went down before the train reached them, or with the weight of the train thrown upon a structure already tottering to its fall. Science, which had built the bridge, had failed to provide any means of ascertaining, from day to day, how the great work endured the jar of passing trains, the fury of the elements, and the possible undermining of the tides. And so, while everybody rested confidently in the hands of unerring science, the Bridge fell, and a great number of men, women, and children went down to death with the wreck, leaving behind not one witness of the awful catastrophe. Nevertheless, the bridge was a triumph of engineering skill.

This is not an uncommon episode in human affairs, except so far as the magnitude of the disaster is concerned. Inventors and builders, every day, invite us to trust life and limb to contrivances built to resist elements the strength of which has never been measured. The wayfaring man takes the chances. The engineer, with all his boasted knowledge and skill, takes the chances. All criticism of the Tay bridge would have been met with scientific and conclusive demonstration that it was as safe from overthrow as the Rock of Gibraltar. It was built on scientific principles, and that was the end of it. Nothing more could be said. But the wonderful bridge is a ruin, and a great mourning in Scotland testifies to the folly of a blind reliance upon engineering skill.

THE COING YEAR.

The year 1879 grows old apace, and its record will shortly be made up. It can hardly be marked in the calendar of the ages as a period of remarkable progress. Our own country has been blessed with a fair degree of prosperity, but it has had a twelvemonth rather of hope and promise than of fruition. We have been passing through a transition, and are fortunate that it has been in the direction of fuller light and more healthy life. Our financial system, that had been drifting at the mercy of the winds and waves of political uncertainty, has touched the firm ground, but has not yet been established on a solid and secure basis. Renewing confidence has still some misgivings, and reviving activity has not yet a clear pathway before it. In general politics the tendency has set toward a more distinct comprehension of the tasks before us, and a growing determination to place their execution in more skillful hands. The peaceful aspect of the country has been disturbed only by the consequences of local departures from the policy of justice and enlightenment, as in the malign prejudice against the Chinese on the Western coast, the inveterate disregard of popular rights in the South, the perverse neglect of the requirements of equity in dealing with the Indians, and the contemptible efforts of the minority to thwart the will of the majority in the State of Maine.

But in other lands the progress of the world, which is supposed to be a marked characteristic of the present age, has met with more serious checks. England has suffered from an agricultural depression that has not been paralleled for many years, and her trade is just showing symptoms of revival from a languor that threatened to be disastrous. Her relations with other countries have grown more perplexed and embarrassing from month to month. The "peace with honor," which she boasted as the result of her diplomacy, has yielded none of the promised fruits. Her efforts to obtain a scientific frontier for her Asiatic possessions have involved her in a vexatious struggle and thrown her boundaries into new confusion. Her civilizing influence in South Africa has only produced a barbarous and profitless war. She has lost the confidence of Turkey and strengthened the hostility of Russia, while other nations regard her rather with a suspicious dislike, than with friendly sympathy. Such are the results of her spirited foreign policy, while at home the complicated aspect of affairs and the neglect of internal interests are producing a growing uneasiness and discontent. Ireland is in distress, and almost in rebellion, and looks for no redress of grievances, unless extorted from the fears of her rulers.

The great Empire of Russia presents a deplorable spectacle. Ruled by an autocrat who is exercised more for his personal safety than the well-being of his subjects, she struggles in the throes of revolution without being ready for it or able to escape its distressing symptoms. The spirit of liberty is mercilessly suppressed, and can show itself only by striking blindly and desperately at the face of the visible head of despotism. The Government and people are distinct and almost antagonistic, and while one is bent on foreign encroachment and aggrandisement, the other aspires, almost without hope, for the chance of internal development and progress. Germany strengthens itself as a political power among nations by sapping its strength as an individual nation. The liberties and the well-being of the people are subordinated to the designs of the Government. Socialism has been crushed into silence, but the causes of discontent are striking deeper and spreading wider, and preparing for the time when the power of resistance will be less easily paralyzed. The energies of the nation cannot be permanently absorbed in military might except at the cost of all that gives vitality to a people. Germany's prestige was never greater, nor did it ever have less solid foundations in national wealth and industrial vigor. Austria stands still, and recognizes its dependence on its neighbors.

The Republic of France is just finishing its first year as a genuine Republic. It has been fairly prosperous, and, in a measure, free from the perils in which most of Europe is entangled. But its Government is not securely established. It is menaced less by the bitterness of its own enemies than by the imprudence of its professed friends. Still, the nation is feeling its way and strengthening its grasp upon the principles of civic freedom. It has much to do to get clear from the trammels of the past and secure the conduct of its affairs in accordance with a consistent policy, and at the hands of men who are at war with themselves and with the people of the country. Its outlook, on the whole, is encouraging. Spain has accomplished next to nothing. There have been no serious disturbances at home and *no evidence of progress, but the pacifica*tion of Cuba is by no means permanently secured, and it seems to be impossible for enlightened statesmen to keep any degree of control over the conduct of affairs. Italy is at the mercy of corrupt factions that succeed each other in assuming direction of the Government, and successively fail to accomplish anything for the glory of the nation at home or abroad. Turkey continues moribund, but is kept alive by foreign stimulants to prevent a quarrel over the disposition of its effects. Its government is helpless anarchy, and its material condition hopeless bankruptcy. The debatable ground between it and Russia and Austria is in an unsettled condition, and destined to be the source of fresh trouble, while the borders of Greece are still undefined. Egypt has got rid of the author of its disasters, but the disasters themselves are still upon it, and if the foreigners who virtually rule it succeed in affording relief it will be at the expense of independence. The yoke to which Egypt has bowed its neck will not be easily displaced. The apathy of South America has been disturbed only by a senseless war on its western coast, of which the outcome can be of little consequence to the world at large. All around, this year has been a period of agitation from which has been evolved little evidence of progress, though all upheaval can be counted as one of the conditions of change of which the final tendency must be toward advancement, for doubtless the world moves in a forward direction.

THE ILLUMINATED SKELETON.

Who among the thirteen young people who infested the Brown family mansion at Newport, Rhode Island, on Christmas, was responsible for the introduction of practical joking as an appropriate method of celebrating the season, is not certainly known. By some it is asserted that a young broker from Wall-street was the guilty person, while others maintain that the first practical joke was played by Miss Mary Brown and her sister, Miss Carrie, and their cousin, Miss Lucy Brown Ketchum. Let us be fair-minded and generous, and assume that the broking Brown was the first and chief offender. Every one who is familiar with the habits and customs of brokers is aware that they regard practical jokes, such as hat-smashing and violent hustling, as the most brilliant manifestations of wit, and if the young broker in question did not play practical jokes on his Brown relatives, there is not the least doubt that he was entirely capable of so doing.

The thirteen young people were of the usual sexes, and were full of spirits. They exhausted the most familiar practical jokes, such as sewing up the sleeves of the young men's night-shirts, and substituting pieces of raw potato for the soap in the young ladies' bedrooms, in the course of the first two evenings, and on Friday night last it became necessary to invent some new jokes. The youthful broker proposed that Mr. Charles W. Brown—a medical student, who subsequently proved a bold, bad young man—should be induced to put his hat on, and that it should then be smashed over his eyes. "We do that sort of thing at the board every now and then, you know," said the broker, "and you've no idea how tremendously funny it is." This plan, however, miscarried, for the reason that no one felt anxious to act as smasher, since Mr. C. W. Brown notoriously carried concealed medicines, and was fully capable of making any one who might meddle with his hat an immediate and involuntary patient. After much discussion, it was decided to frighten the medical student with a ghost, and, as a preliminary, all agreed to weaken his mind by a prolonged conversation on ghostly subjects.

In the evening, ghost stories were accordingly told at great length. Nearly every one professed to have seen or heard a ghost in peculiarly blood-curdling circumstances, and even the young broking person recollected a story of great antiquity, which he related as part of his personal experience. Then Miss Mary Brown remembered that the room in which the medical student was to sleep had the reputation of being haunted. She said that a ghostly skeleton frequently appeared in it at the dead of night, and required the unhappy person whom it might meet to instantly confess his sins, under some vague but awful penalty. The skeleton was believed to have been formerly the property of a wicked priest, who had committed suicide in the room, and it was said to make an annual appearance on the 26th of December.

By this time the young ladies had talked themselves into a very nervous state, but Mr. Charles W. Brown did not seem to be in the least degree alarmed. He said he had been on intimate and friendly terms with ghosts during the greater part of his life, and that he liked them very much. In fact, he was anxious to meet the skeleton, and asserted that if he saw it he should ask it to go to Philadelphia with him, so that he could study its bones at his leisure. At a late hour the thirteen young people decided to go to bed, and after bidding each other good night, with much elaboration, they sought their respective rooms.

As soon, however, as Mr. Charles W. Brown had entered his room, the other twelve young people noiselessly assembled outside of his door to ascertain the success of their joke. Miss Mary Brown, her sister, and her cousin, had drawn with phosphorus a magnificent and appalling skeleton on the wall of the room, and written above the head the legend, "Confess your sins." When the medical student, after consuming what was thought to be an unnecessary length of time in preparing for bed, finally put out his light, the phosphoric ghost shone brilliantly before his eyes, and he uttered a yell of the most terrible and, to the young people outside of his door, delightful description.

Then the wicked young student began, in a loud tone of voice, his confession. He confessed that on Wednesday night he had kissed Miss Mary Brown in the library; but he urged upon the ghost, as an extraordinary circumstance, the fact that the young lady had virtually requested him to do so, and that he did not see his way clear to refuse. Then he confessed that he had promised to marry Miss Carrie Brown, and that he had broken his promise. Still, he claimed that he would not have been thus faithless had he not seen her in the *act of sitting on the young broker's lap, and* had she not subsequently admitted that she had promised to marry that "addle-pated youth," as she accurately described him. Also, Mr. Charles W. Brown, who is undoubtedly a lineal descendant of Ananias, further confessed that he meant no harm when he kissed Miss Ketchum in the vestibule of the church on Christmas morning, and that he would never do so again.

By this time the young people outside of the door had fled. The three young ladies whose names had been mentioned in the medical student's confession wept indignant tears, and protested that the "wretch" knew that he was telling lies; while the other young ladies said they hoped that such was the case, but that Mr. Brown did seem very earnest and sincere in what he said. The next morning no questions were asked of that depraved young man, and in the course of the day nearly every one of the thirteen young people said they had received letters which would oblige them to go home immediately.

As a practical joke, the illuminated skeleton was not, perhaps, strikingly successful, but it is the opinion of Mr. Charles W. Brown that no further attempts to play practical jokes on him will be made, and that he has fully repaid the ingenious inventor of the ghost.

Attorney-General Schoonmaker made a Christmas present to some of the prominent instruments of the McLaughlin Ring in Brooklyn, which those gentlemen ought to value highly. He discontinued the suits against William A. Fowler, E. T. Lowber, A. M. Bliss, and Abner C. Keeney, in the matter of the Third-avenue sewer. These suits were brought to recover money alleged to have been fraudulently taken from the City Treasury by the three first-named gentlemen as members of the Water Board, and by the last-named as contractor and partner of William C. Kingsley, the executive manager and financier of the Ring. At the time they were first brought, they created a great sensation in Brooklyn, and it is generally believed that they have been the rod by which Mr. Tilden has driven the Ring to serve him so faithfully at all the Democratic conventions. As the amount involved was something near a quarter of a million of dollars, the defendants may consider themselves well paid for their services. But the propriety, not to say the decency, of the act in an outgoing Attorney-General, in the last week of his term, would seem doubtful to a less obtuse conscience than Mr. Schoonmaker's.

The recurrence of Hospital Sunday, instituted in 1874 by St. Luke's Hospital, sustained by a letter from Bishop Potter, may serve to recall the fact that the great hospital system of New-York is a development of the last quarter of a century. Previous to the year 1849 the care of the sick poor in this City devolved exclusively upon two institutions, which may thus be regarded as historical landmarks—Bellevue Hospital, which furnished provision for City paupers, and the New-York Hospital, on Broadway facing the upper Pearl-street junction. The latter was founded in 1770 by private beneficence. The Episcopal Church was the first of all the religious organizations represented in our population to perceive and act upon the principle that hospital provision for the destitute poor is one of the duties that churches owe to the community that protects and sustains them. On St. Luke's Day, 1846, the Rev. Dr. Muhlenberg, whose saintly life closed but recently, made his first appeal before the congregation of the Church of the Holy Communion on behalf of the destitute sick; but it was not until 1850 that the hospital was actually founded, and meanwhile the Roman Catholics had eagerly taken up the *suggestion and founded St. Vincent's Hospital* in 1849. The Jews caught the spirit of the devoted pioneer, and in 1852 Mount Sinai Hospital was opened. In 1865 the Roman Catholics added their St. Francis Hospital to the list. Three years later the Presbyterian Hospital was founded, and in 1870 the Episcopalians opened St. Mary's Free Hospital, and the Roman Catholics St. Elizabeth's Hospital. These seven institutions have a capacity for treating 825 patients. In 1857 the German people in this City, adherents, for the most part, of modes of treatment not in use in American institutions, opened an institution of their own, and in 1875 the Homœopathists combined to found the Hahnemann. The movement in favor of the medical education of women has also been fruitful in hospital-founding since 1857, when the Woman's Hospital was put in operation. The New-York Medical College and Hospital for Women followed, in 1863. The representation of medical specialties in hospital work appears to have had its inception in 1852, at the hands of the homœopathists, in the foundation of the New-York Ophthalmic Hospital. This was followed by the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital in 1869, the New-York Orthopedic Hospital in 1863, the Metropolitan Throat Hospital in 1874, and the New-York Eye and Ear Infirmary, the Institution for the Relief of the Ruptured and Crippled, the House of Rest for Consumptives, and the Home for Incurables, at dates still more recent. These several institutions, special and general, have accommodations for about 700. It may be computed from the data furnished that, exclusive of City institutions, the hospital accommodations for the sick poor on Manhattan Island are adequate to treatment at any one time of about 2,000 patients—not very large certainly when our population and vital statistics are taken into account. In 1864 the Roosevelt Hospital—the only one, perhaps, founded by the beneficence of a single private individual—contributed its part to increase our provision for the destitute but not pauper sick; but, notwithstanding the great development of the last quarter of a century, our hospital resources are still scarcely adequate, and patients have to be dismissed before they are fully restored, to make room for others in waiting. After all, brilliant as the record of the last thirty years has been, a great deal remains to be done before our hospital system can be pronounced perfect.

Whoever has visited our foreign bookstores in search of children's books in French and German, must have been struck with the vast superiority of the German article. One would think there were no children in France, to judge from the juvenile literature imported from Paris. Certainly, no child of Anglo-Saxon lineage could ever feel any interest in these books, either for their ideas or their language. Nursery rhymes are serviceable in giving the earliest lessons in a foreign language, but one might as well set a boy to studying the French tongue in a volume of Comte's "Positive Philosophy" as in any of those modern French fairy tales. Nobody has ever succeeded in fairy tales like Perrault, whose "Sleeping Beauty," "Puss in Boots," "Blue Beard," "Cinderella," and other stories, based on familiar Brittany legends or Provençal fabliaux, and first published in 1697, passed current as "Contes de Ma Mère l'Oye," ("Mother Goose's Tales,") and are known the world over. Perrault was a Frenchman, to be sure, but he has had no successors. Besides, his "Contes" were written for grown people quite as much as for children. Our own immortal Mother Goose has come very much nearer the infant heart. She was an unpleasant kind of a Boston mother-in-law, if we may credit tradition, and her "Melodies" first saw the light in 1712, issuing from the office of her son-in-law, T. Fleet, a well-known Boston printer. The peculiar merit of these "Melodies" lies in the fact that they are absolutely frivolous, and have no connected moral, at the same time they contain odd, quaint, or funny ideas expressed in jingling verse, easily learned by any child that can talk, and which somehow clings to the memory. Frenchmen and Frenchwomen have not the deepest sympathy with children, nor a very intimate knowledge of their natures. But even with the most delicate understanding and the happiest choice of subjects, a successful nursery rhyme could hardly be written in French. To catch a child's ear, a verse must be strongly marked in its rhythm, and this is only possible by means of syllable accents. Accent, the stress on particular syllables, is a much more important element in determining the character of verse than quantity, the length of syllables, though classical scholars have wasted oceans of ink and countless years of toil in trying to prove the contrary. *This is true in all languages. Now the* French possesses only the remains of an accent system. Syllable stress in that language is much less strongly marked than in most other languages, and is more or less variable. Its poetry is written in accordance with a system of accent and pronunciation now obsolete in prose, and which often fails to give a well-marked rhythm to verse. There are lines in all the French poets, even in Boileau, that to a true ear are downright prose. German verse, on the contrary, is distinctly rhythmical, and any one who can read the prose of that language can read its poetry also with good effect—which is by no means true of French. These German nursery tales are calculated to catch the child's fancy quite as much by their matter as by their form, and their illustrations are incomparably superior to the tawdry pictures of the Paris children's books.

During a recent Mohammedan festival at Kandahar, capital of Southern Afghanistan, a number of mounted Chazis, as they are named, ran amuck through the British camp. Gen. Tilen and several British soldiers were wounded, and four of the Chazis were killed. Running amuck is one of the terrors of the East, but is far less common than it formerly was. Originally a Malay custom, it has extended to other countries in which the Mohammedan creed is prevalent. The word amuck is a corruption of *amouk*, Javanese, to kill, and the thing is simply a miscellaneous, indiscriminate killing. The natives of those Eastern lands become from long-continued excessive use of opium ferociously frantic, and their frenzy is often intensified by religious fanaticism. Then, absolutely mad, they rush into the streets—frequently nude—cursing, biting, and stabbing with a knife which they always carry, whomsoever they encounter. They are dreadful to see, and still more dreadful to meet. They look like animated, very animated corpses, their features being pinched and sharpened, their skin drawn like parchment, their eyes glittering with fierce insanity, and their energy bent on slaughter. As many as 40 persons have been killed by them before they could be overcome. Their appearance is the signal for general alarm. Everybody seizes the first weapon he can reach, and sallies forth to hunt down and exterminate the common foe. Of course, there is no reasoning with them, no way of intimidating them. They must be killed for the general safety, and they are killed as soon as possible. Long spears used to be employed altogether as weapons against them—and they are still employed—being thrown at or thrust into them until they expire. Fire-arms are now the offensive weapons when these are safe; but, in the narrow, crowded streets of the East, this is not often the case. Nothing is so formidable as an amuck-runner, and it is not strange that he is mercilessly slain. The Malays, owing to their ferocity, treachery, and daring, are the most dreaded of all, especially when armed with the dagger, or creese, their native weapon, with which they have a deadly skill, and which makes a terrible and very dangerous wound. A European or American who has seen an amuck is very apt to remember it.

Stock-brokers and speculators will be interested in a recently-published opinion of the English Court of Appeal. A member of the London Stock Exchange, who had been commissioned to "operate" for a speculator, sued the latter for commissions and indemnity on certain contracts which he had made pursuant to general instructions. The defense was set up that the claim was founded on gaming and wagering transactions, and hence that no action could be maintained. The court held that the agreement between the parties was not illegal either under the statute which invalidates all gaming and wagering contracts, or independently of the statute, on grounds of public policy. The Judges deem it necessary to distinguish this case from an earlier one, in which a "time bargain" was held to be in the nature of a wager or gambling, and therefore not enforceable. In that case the transaction was between two principals, whose contract though nominally a sale of stock for future delivery, was in reality an agreement simply for the future payment of a difference in the market price. In other words, it was a wager as to whether the stock would go up or down within a specified time. In the present case the broker was an agent. The contracts he entered into with third persons for the purchase and sale of stock were *bona fide. He bound himself actually to* take or decline the stock which he bought or sold. The persons with whom he dealt regarded the transactions as genuine purchases or sales. It was understood, it is true, between the principal and the agent that the latter was so to manage the business that the former would not be called upon actually to accept or deliver any stock. In other words, the agent was merely to speculate on prices. But it was also understood that the principal incurred the risk of having to accept or deliver stock, or to indemnify his agent in case it became necessary to do so. Hence he was bound to meet the liabilities incurred by the agent. This case was also distinguished from another, wherein the agent had been expressly instructed to make "time bargains" and not to negotiate any real sales or purchases. Such agreement was held to be a species of gambling, and therefore invalid. The trained acumen of the lawyer or the broker may be able to appreciate the fine distinction drawn by the court between the latest and the other two cases cited, but the average lay mind will fail to see much difference so far as gambling is concerned.

GENERAL RAILWAY NOTES.

PROJECTED LINE IN NEW-JERSEY—OTHER RAILROAD INTELLIGENCE.

Long Branch, N. J., Dec. 29.—A party of Philadelphia and New-Jersey capitalists have commenced a survey between Sea Girt and Point Pleasant for a proposed railroad, to form a junction of the Freehold and Jamesburg Railroad with the Central Railroad of New-Jersey at Sea Girt. The line of survey bears eastward of the old Tom's River route, and crosses the Manasquan River near the township's new bridge. The building of the road will make necessary the erection of another bridge across the river. This has called forth the indignation of the property-owners of the Summer places adjacent to the river, who are of the opinion that another bridge across the river would detract much from its value and attractiveness to yachtsmen and pleasure-seekers, and would be a detriment to the resort as a harbor for vessels should the Government carry out its projected improvements, and for which large appropriations have been made. A minor portion of the cottage and land owners are in favor of the railroad, claiming that their property would be greatly enhanced in value, and that the Summer patronage would be augmented in a corresponding degree. Those not in favor of the extension will fight the railroad's right of way through their property in the courts at the January term. The estimated cost of the syar is $200,000.

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—An application will be made to Parliament to amend the act relative to the Montreal, Portland and Boston Railroad Company, by extending the time to complete the road from Stanbridge east to the Province line.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 29.—Chief Engineer Van Pelt, with the assistance of Messrs. Meakin and Douglass, will begin the work of locating the bed of the Little Rock and Mississippi River and Texas Railroad to-morrow, on the east side of the city.

Macon, Ga., Dec. 29.—Judge Simmons, of the Superior Court, has granted an injunction restraining the State Comptroller-General from collecting taxes for 1876 and 1877 from the South-western Railroad. The taxes aggregate $220,000.

INTEREST ON ALABAMA BONDS.

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 29.—Money to meet the interest, on Jan. 1, 1880, on State of Alabama bonds, is on depos

RECORD OF AMUSEMENTS

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL.

PARK THEATRE

Every one admires a man of grit; and, therefore, every one should admire Mr. Bartley Campbell; the combined patience and pluck of this writer have literally dragged him on toward success. The road that leads to popularity is a long one and a narrow one, and it is obstructed with envy, malice, and spleen; men with the spirits of whipped terriers—and there abound, it is needless to say—might wisely choose a softer pathway. The American dramatist must, above all, be made of the sternest stuff if he hopes eventually to win fame and fortune, for his chances are rude indeed. Mr. Campbell's picturesque experiences illustrate these axioms in the liveliest way, and we can safely advise all ambitious playwrights to model themselves upon his precious example. At the same time, while we make this small acknowledgment to Mr. Campbell's pluck, it is not our purpose to underrate that still more definite quality of his endeavor—talent; he is without doubt a man of real talent, and the mimetic instinct, which Aristotle was the first to observe in children, is clearly a strong part of his nature. He sees things, as Prosper Mérimée used to say, in a theatrical perspective, and no writer, however high may be his purely literary faculties, can succeed on the stage unless he possesses this rare dramatic faculty. The trouble with Mr. Campbell seems to be, at present, his lack of art-sense; he can grasp a situation or a character, but he cannot conceive a whole work within the limits of taste, logic, and proportion. Thus, the virile power shown in "My Partner" is almost destroyed, from an artistic point of view, by the disgusting sentimentality of its central idea; and, in "The Galley Slave," we see the startling incongruity of a weak, silly plan of action developed with unquestionable vigor into strong scenes and climaxes. A play, which is intended to be at once interesting and artistic, must be so constructed that each of its parts shall be relatively proportioned to all its other parts; there must be nothing in the opening scenes, for instance, which fails to justify the complicated action that follows. The opening scenes of "The Galley Slave," as we have already pointed out, are puerile, since a word—which is merely withheld for the sake of convenience—would render them useless and end the play at once. It is true, nevertheless, that a drama may be at the same time interesting and inartistic, and such a work is "The Galley Slave." However, we do not believe that Mr. Campbell will always be satisfied with partial successes of this kind, for it behooves a truly earnest man to control his talent, if possible, and not to permit his talent to control him. The play which was produced at the Park Theatre last night—it is called "Fairfax," and deals with life in the South—is another example of Mr. Campbell's weakness and strength, or, to use a better term, of his immature power. Before writing of the general effect of this play and of its reception last evening, we will glance at what seems to us its radical weakness. Mr. Campbell, it should be mentioned, has publicly avowed that, in writing "Fairfax," he took the "Dora" of Sardou as his model. In other words, he has sought to construct a drama in such a manner that, while its end shall be foreseen by the audience from the first act, the characters in the drama foresee nothing, and are hopelessly involved in what is to them alone a mystery. This method of construction is admirably illustrated by Sardou's play, just as the other and still more popular method, that in which the final climax is wholly unexpected, is illustrated by Emile Augier's delightful comedy "Madame Caverlet." The second of these methods is perhaps the most natural; though the former is equally effective, if it does not violate probability and human nature. But "Fairfax" does violate both. The entire suspense in this play is made to depend upon the relation between a man and a woman, who are forced into a misunderstanding, not by a natural agency, but by an ingenious contrivance which the dramatist has set himself to elaborate. The result of this state of things is that the woman, who is the heroine of the piece, suffers untold misery, though there is no good reason why she should suffer at all. In other words, Mr. Campbell has founded his plot upon a false premise; there is, in consequence, little sense of proportion between the plan and the structure of his drama. What can be more tantalizing than the sight of a heroine in tears, when it is felt that, were she a woman of average intelligence, she would not certainly waste her time in weeping. People who apply the simple standard of commonsense to plays often make this objection to pieces which are otherwise excellent, and their objection holds in criticism.

The story of "Fairfax" is so simple that it can hardly be viewed as a plot; an interesting story, however, in which the struggles of a woman against misfortune are set forth with a great deal of earnestness. To those who can overlook its fatal defect, it will appeal forcibly. It is obvious that the purely dramatic motive of the play, both on account of the latter's simplicity and peculiarity of construction, is not strong, and as it is made to cover five acts, it follows that a small amount of material is spread upon a very extensive ground-work. There is, in fact, no more essential matter in "Fairfax" than in a two-act drama like "All that Glitters is Not Gold." However, Mr. Campbell has succeeded better on the whole than might be supposed. His play is pure in tone, delicate in treatment, and, up to the end of the fourth act, striking in climax. Its chief merit, without doubt, is its comedy, which is abundant and thoroughly enjoyable; this comic element of the story is, moreover, artistically interspersed amid the few dramatic scenes, and alternates wit and humor in the brightest fashion. Out of it are developed two characters which, though far from novel, are portrayed with a great deal of skill. In general, the dialogue, where it tends most to seriousness, is least pleasing, for Mr. Campbell has not conquered his tendency to make his personages speak in a style approaching bathos and traditional sentiment. On the other hand, his comic dialogue is easy and often sparkling. Of his characters we cannot say much in praise, for all are subordinated to a central figure, that of the heroine, who is herself merely a copy of the now familiar female sufferer who seems to be a part of the dramatist's regular stock in trade. "Fairfax" may be recommended, in conclusion, as a work of considerable merit, in spite of its faults, and as an endeavor which, if but partially successful, commands sympathy and respect. The popular impression seemed to be in its favor, especially at the close of the third act, when the author was called before the curtain. We shall, at all events, be glad to record the success of "Fairfax," though this drama must rank critically much lower than "My Partner."

The most notable impersonations in the performance last evening were those of Mrs. Agnes Booth, Miss Sydney Cowell, and Mr. Frederick Robinson. Mrs. Booth's method and natural talents, it is true, are really unsuited to emotional playing, for her voice is metallic in quality and her action is artificial. But she grasped the character of *Mrs. Marigold* with perfect intelligence, and embodied it in a manner which was, at least, artistically pleasing. Miss Cowell, however, was thoroughly suited to her part, *Diana Dorsis*, and played it with charming ease, grace, and piquancy. Mr. Robinson, who, though he may ignore the fact, is a natural comedian, and who insists too often upon appearing as young lovers and tragic heroes, gave a delightful performance of the middle-aged benevolent bachelor, *Dr. Guy Gaylord*. The other parts were well filled, and the stage-setting was in every respect satisfactory.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.

"She Stoops to Conquer" was revived last evening at Wallack's. The revival of any of the standard English comedies at this theatre, which is supposed to be especially under the patronage of the comic muse, is always a matter of more than common dramatic interest, for it generally means a representation of the piece unequaled since that famous congregation of players, of which the dead actors Buckstone and Compton were members, used to enact legitimate comedy at the London Haymarket. Perhaps there is no company at present on our stage whose appearance carries with it as strong a personal color outside of its high artistic work as Wallack's. The minor links may shift, change, die out, and be replaced by others, but it has some reminders which are accustomed to shine with steadfast splendor, and with as much constancy of remembrance as can be well credited to anything terrestrial. The playgoer who has chiefly made Wallack's his shrine can hardly reconcile to his mind a *Mr. HardCastle*, a *Sir Anthony Absolute*, or a *Sir Peter Teazle* which does not bear the impress of Mr. John Gilbert's genial and genuine ability. The veteran was at his post last night in the familiar rôle of *Mr. Hardcastle*, and with his admirable acting in no way impaired by the illness through which he has passed. He was greeted with great cordiality and warmth by an audience which, being a first-night one, was of a calibre and temperament not commonly found outside of first-night audiences at this theatre. It was something, too, to have Mr. Lester Wallack emerge once again to bask in the sunshine of Metropolitan applause. No doubt it was principally on account of the popular actor and manager that the audience last night filled every seat, and that many persons were thankful for standing-room. Then Mr. Harry Beckett was there to permeate the performance with the jovial spirit of *Tony Lumpkin*, while Mr. Maurice Barrymore was cast for the part of *George Hastings*, which he filled in a graceful and manly fashion. The familiar presence of Mme. Ponisi was not wanting to the ensemble, and Miss Ada Dyas, Miss Stella Boniface, and a full cast of competent actors and actresses gave a cohesive and symmetrical interest to the performances. Mr. Wallack, along with a mature experience, must have extracted some secret of rejuvenescence from the passing years. At least he does not grow old and his actings has all the freshness, the snap, and the peculiar vein of cynical sparkle for which he has long been famous. Then that romantic style of his did him like a garment—a garment, too, which he cannot always put off when it might seem desirable—while his swagger is as delightful as ever. His impersonation of *Charles Marlow* last night was excellent, and evoked applause which well nigh ran into enthusiasm. Of course, Lester Wallack was visible through the performance, but who would willingly miss that accomplished actor from any of Lester Wallack's rôles? All the fine lights and shades of Mr. Gilbert's *Mr. Hardcastle* were brought out as of old, and Mr. Beckett made the most lively merriment by his performance in the part of *Tony Lumpkin*. The rôle of *Mrs. Hardcastle* was in the competent keeping of Mme. Ponisi, and Miss Dyas filled the part of *Miss Hardcastle* with ability and success. An excellent stage setting was given to the comedy.

CAMPANINI AND MARIMON IN BOSTON.

BOSTON, Dec. 29.—Mr. Mapleson's opera company began a season of two weeks here to-night in the Boston Theatre. The opera was "La Sonnambula," with Mlle. Marimon as *Amina*, Signor Campanini as *Elvino*, Signor Del Puente as *Rodolfo*, and Mme. Labiache as *Teresa*, probably the finest caste Bellini's favorite work has ever received in Boston. The immense theatre, which will hold about 4,000 persons, was crowded, and the audience was most enthusiastic. Mlle. Marimon was warmly received, and her wonderful vocalization throughout the opera, especially in the rondo, "Ah, non giunge," awakened fervent applause. Campanini's *Elvino* was greeted with the same favor, and they were both called before the curtain repeatedly. To-night "Marta" will be sung, with Campanini and Behrens, Valerja and Cary in the chief rôles; on Wednesday, Mlle. Marimon will appear in "La Figlia del Reggimento;" "Aïda" will be produced, and Mme. Ambre will make her first appearance, on Thursday night; and on Friday "Linda" will be the opera. The season promises to be a wholly successful one.

OBITUARY.

STEPHEN HAYNES.

Stephen Haynes, an old and well-known citizen of Brooklyn, died in his residence, No. 249 Atlantic-avenue, on Sunday afternoon, of pneumonia. He was an old Long Islander, having been born in Suffolk County in 1801. In the war of 1812 he served as a drummer-boy. He came to Brooklyn at an early age and learned the carpenter's trade. Being industrious, he prospered, and was soon able to start in business for himself. Brooklyn was then a village, and Mr. Haynes was one of the Trustees. He superintended the building of the present City Hall and of several other public buildings in that city. He was made a Park Commissioner by the act creating the Park Commission, and held the office up to the time of his death. In politics he was a Democrat, but he always acted with Mr. Stranahan, the President, who is credited with creating and absolutely controlling the Park Commission. Mr. Haynes was a member of the Washington-Street Methodist Episcopal Church. His funeral will take place on Wednesday.

OBITUARY NOTES.

Col. Arthur T. Lee, on the retired list of the United States Army, died at Rochester yesterday.

Charles A. Benjamin, of Adams, Jefferson County, N. Y., ex-member of Assembly and a prominent agriculturist, died yesterday.

George M. Barnes, for many years Assistant Engineer on the Erie and Champlain Canal, died at Utica yesterday, at the age of 50 years.

Cyrus Douglas, a nephew of the deceased millionaire, John Shilito, was found dead in bed yesterday morning in Cincinnati on the third floor over a drinking saloon. He was the son of Shilito's sister, was 42 years of age, and at the time of his death was reduced to the position of a policy-dealer.

Robert B. Anderson died at his home, No. 211 Rutledge-street, Brooklyn, yesterday morning, after a brief but severe illness. Mr. Anderson was born in Pittsburg, Penn., 48 years ago, but came to this State when quite young. For a number of years he conducted a flour mill in the Eastern District. Three years ago he was elected State Prison Inspector on the same ticket with Gov. Robinson, but a constitutional amendment abolished his office. Last year he was a candidate for Supervisor at Large on the Independent Democratic ticket.

STOLEN PROPERTY SEIZED.

A POLICE RAID ON A HENRY-STREET DEN.

Sergts. Meakim and Young and other officers of the First Inspection District made a descent last night on No. 52 Henry-street, and arrested Charles Woodhull, alias Maxwell, alias McDonnell, Charles A. Antwin, William Fields, known as the steel man, a boxer in a Crosby-street variety theatre, and one "John Burns." In the house was seized property, evidently stolen, the value of which is between $300 and $400. The raid was prompted by the discovery that the house was resorted to by suspicious-looking persons. This was on Sunday, and the place was kept under surveillance until last night. During that time many persons entered and left the house with bundles. When the house was surrounded and entered the officers went to a room on the second floor. They opened the door, and Burns, whose identity has not been fully established, drew a revolver and leveled it at them, but lowered it on seeing that the officers were armed. In the rooms was the property which was seized. There are several silk dresses, a fine opera shawl that cost at least $125, an old diamond-hair shawl, a number of photographs and stereoscopic slides of noted places in Europe, a good set of ivory draughtsmen, gloves, silk handkerchiefs, half-hose, and a "jimmy." Woodhull is known as a professional thief. He told the Police that a stranger gave him the property, which was seized in Philadelphia. In his possession were found pawn tickets representing valuable articles. Antwin said that he had no knowledge of stolen property being in the room in which he was arrested. Fields said that he was induced by Antwin to go to the house, it being represented to him that he could buy a silk dress for his wife cheap. Just before the officers arrived he purchased, for $13, one of the silk dresses which were seized. It is expected that the property will be identified to-day by the owners. The prisoners are to be arraigned in the Essex Market Police Court.

THE BROOKLYN ALDERMEN.

The Brooklyn Board of Aldermen for 1879 held its last meeting yesterday. Very little business was transacted, but some time was taken up in passing resolutions complimenting the officers and employes on the manner in which they had performed their duty during the past year. On motion of Alderman Kouns, of the Fourteenth Ward, the bonds of ex-Tax Collector Radnay and ex-Controller Johnson, both of whom were defaulters to the city, were canceled. The Mayor was on one of these bonds and Boss McLaughlin was on another. The reason given for canceling the bonds was that some of the bondsmen had died, others were bankrupt, and others were not interested in their business by this lien on their property. Alderman French brought in a report from a special committee on renumbering the streets. It appeared from the report that there were 10,000 half numbers on houses throughout the city. No action was taken on the report, and the board adjourned sine die.

THE WORLD'S FAIR COMMITTEE.

The sub-committee appointed to perfect arrangements for holding a world's fair in this City in 1881, met in the Fifth-Avenue Hotel last evening. Mr. H. G. Stebbins presided. It was resolved to hold a public meeting in Chickering Hall, or in the Academy of Music, on Jan. 14 or 15, as the committee might hereafter determine. It was also resolved to publish in pamphlet form the entire proceedings of the Executive Committee meeting, held recently, at which Secretary Sherman was present. A large number of prominent gentlemen from various parts of the United States will be invited to be present at the meeting in January.

HAYDEN'S TRIAL RESUMED

THE PRISONER'S LONG EXAMINATION FINISHED.

MR. HAYDEN'S TESTIMONY UPON SEVERAL SUBJECTS — WITNESSES WHO NEVER HEARD OF BIG ROCK UNTIL AFTER THE MURDER—TESTIMONY ABOUT HAZLETT.

NEW-HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 29.—The lobbies of the County Court-house and the halls leading from the main entrance to the doors of the Superior Court room were so densely packed at 2 o'clock this afternoon, with persons anxious to gain admission to the Hayden trial, that the services of a court officer were necessary to keep open a passage for those entitled to admission. When, soon after 2 o'clock, the trial was resumed, every available inch of space in the court-room was occupied by spectators, while an equally large crowd was outside the doors unable to gain admission. Mr. Hayden occupied the witness stand about an hour and a half, and was then finally excused. The defense next introduced several witnesses, chiefly for the purpose of substantiating Mr. Hayden's statement that Big Rock, Whippoorwill Rock, &c., were not familiar names in Rockland previous to the murder. Testimony was also introduced to show the possibility that the letter claimed by the State to have been written by Mary Stannard to Mr. Hayden was really addressed to one "Hazen." It is understood that there is to be a session of the court every day this week, possibly excepting New Year's Day.

Mr. Waller continued his cross-examination of Mr. Hayden by asking him if he had ever used arsenic previous to September, 1878. Mr. Hayden replied that he did not use any arsenic at that time, and had never previously seen the article to know what it was. He did not know what its effect was when taken by a person, whether to produce sleep or to produce irritation or burning.

"Did you know in September, 1878, how much arsenic it would take to kill?" asked Mr. Waller.

"I know, or supposed," answered Mr. Hayden, "that a very small quantity, such as would lie on the point of a knife-blade, would produce death."

"How did you learn that?"

"I cannot tell."

Mr. Waller then asked the witness concerning the various knives he had owned. The witness said he never possessed another knife similar to the one introduced in this case. Mr. Waller then asked:

"Where was Ben Stevens when you first saw him on the forenoon before the homicide?"

"He was standing in the door-yard as I drove up to the Stannard house," replied Mr. Hayden.

"Did you not state before the Coroner's jury in Rockland that the first you saw of Stevens that forenoon was in the Stannards' sitting-room?"

"I was not questioned on that point. I don't think I said so."

"How long were you absent from the oyster supper at the Methodist parsonage in Rockland in March, 1878, and at what time in the evening did you leave?"

"I was absent about 10 minutes, and the time was in the vicinity of 9 o'clock."

"I have no further question to ask at present," said Mr. Waller, and Mr. Jones thereupon proceeded to question the witness concerning his doings on the evening of the Rockland oyster supper in March, 1878. Mr. Hayden said he left the supper and went home for the purpose of putting his children to bed. He did this at his wife's request. The object of the supper was to liquidate a debt of $50 on the Rockland Methodist church. During the evening a bed-quilt was given away by chances. The witness superintended this matter, and it was his duty to take the name of every one who sat down to the supper. As people were sitting down at all times during the evening, his time was constantly occupied. Mr. Hayden admitted that he at one time borrowed $75 of Susan Hawley, Mary Stannard's half-sister, and explained the circumstances under which it was done. He had a note to meet in the Spring of 1877, and Mary Stannard told his wife that Susan could furnish the money. A note was signed by the witness and Mrs. Hayden and given to Susan for her money. The witness had visited the Stannard house only four times in his life previous to the murder. Mr. Jones taking up another topic, Mr. Hayden said he had no knowledge whether the people of Rockland were at home or abroad on Sept. 3, 1878.

"Don't you think," asked Mr. Jones, "that if you were crossing by the 'ribbon' path from the new Durham road to the old one, you would have noticed whether anybody was coming up the road, provided you had been on a murderous mission?"

Mr. Waller objected to this question, and Mr. Jones said he would not insist upon it. His object in asking it had been to draw from the witness whether it would not have been possible for him, if he had been on the "ribbon" path that afternoon, and had been desirous of avoiding observation, to have hidden himself from Mrs. Ward or any one else coming up the road. Mr. Jones did not press the question, but in its place asked:

"Mr. Hayden, there has been a good deal said in this case about your horse; which is the oldest, you or the horse?"

"I think the horse was about 17 years old," answered Mr. Hayden with a smile.

"Did you consider it dangerous for your children to hold the reins when you were absent from your carriage?"

"No, Sir. The horse was very gentle, and I didn't think there was any danger."

"Had you any desire when you bought that ounce of arsenic in Middletown to do it secretly?"

"No, Sir."

"You made your purchase then at the place where you were best acquainted?"

"Yes, Sir."

Mr. Hayden, in answer to other questions, stated that he had never bought a present for Mary Stannard, and had never made her a present of any kind. He once bought her a pair of shoes, but she paid for them out of her wages. At Mrs. Jones's request Mr. Hayden stated the substance of his conversation with Dr. Bailey, in Middletown, on the forenoon before the homicide. The Doctor asked how Mrs. Hayden was, and the witness replied that she was as well as could be expected under the circumstances. The witness then asked the Doctor if he often witnessed cases of labor. Mr. Jones's counsel objected to this question, but on the witness answering in the negative, and, bidding each other "good morning," the men separated.

"Mr. Hayden, are you right or left handed?" asked Mr. Jones.

"Right-handed," answered the witness. "I always whittle and write with my right hand."

"Write this," said Mr. Jones, handing the witness pencil and paper.

"Wait a minute," interrupted Mr. Waller. "What is this for?"

"I had almost forgotten that the boot-heel was out of the case," said Mr. Jones, as he walked back to his seat with the pencil and paper.

"It don't make any difference whether a throat is cut with the right hand or left hand," said Mr. Waller. "It's just as bad for the throat in either case."

Mr. Waller again cross-examined the witness, who said that although his horse was old and gentle, he did not think it best to trust him in the wood-lot where he was piling up the wood. A portion of the "ribbon" path between the two roads and below the spring, the witness said, was so skirted by shrubbery that a person in the path could not be seen from the road.

"Mr. Hayden," asked Mr. Waller, "on Sept. 3, 1878, did you at the Stannard house, did you not, even if you had never seen it before, see the path leading into the woods directly opposite the house?"

"No, Sir," replied the witness.

Mr. Hayden having stated that he had a bag of oats in the front part of his carriage when he returned home on the day of the murder, he was asked if he did not find it awkward to see out of the carriage with the children and the oats in it. He replied that the oats made it somewhat inconvenient, but the presence of the children in the carriage did not add to the difficulty.

"When did you begin to work at carpentering?" asked Mr. Waller.

"When I was 16 years old," answered Mr. Hayden.

"Was not your father at one time a butcher?"

"Yes, Sir; I kept market for him about a year."

"Did you ever see an animal butchered, or assist in the operation?"

"I have watched the operation, and possibly assisted."

"Did you ever kill a lamb or a calf, or hold one while being killed?"

"What does the fact of his having killed a calf when he was a boy have to do with showing that he murdered this girl?" asked Mr. Jones.

Mr. Waller did not answer this question, and as he had nothing further to ask of the witness, Mr. Hayden was excused.

Mrs. Norman Scranton testified that during a visit to Mr. Hayden and family, at her house in Madison, in March, 1878, the little boy, Jennie Hayden, cut his finger with his father's knife. The witness remembered seeing blood upon the boy's finger and upon the small blade of the knife.

Judge H. B. Wilcox, of Madison, testified that in the preliminary hearing before him nothing was said about a cystic tumor. By Dr. White or anybody else. Mr. Waller, explaining that the State did not claim that anything was said at the Madison hearing about a cystic tumor, Mr. Jones said that no other witnesses on this point would be produced.

Henry Davis, of Durham, a resident of Rockland for 23 years prior to 1873, testified that he never knew of Big Rock, Whippoorwill Rock, or Fox Ledge until after the murder. Asked concerning his knowledge of the name of the man called Hazlett, the witness said he had heard him called both Hazley and Hazen. He had had an account with this man, at his store in Durham, and Mr. Waterous asked him to produce his account-book.

Mr. Waller objected to the admission of this evidence, and Mr. Waterous answered that it was to show the name by which the man was known in connection with the address on the letter claimed to have been written by Mary Stannard to Mr. Hayden. Mr. Waller said this testimony was not admissible until some one had found a foundation enough to go upon the stand and swear that the address upon that envelope was "Hazen" or "Hasley," and not "Hayden." Mr. Waterous claimed that the testimony was quite proper, as going to show that the dead girl knew the man as "Hazley." This fact would incidentally go to show that the possession by the letter which had been shown in court was written after the death of the girl, and for a purpose. Had Mrs. Hayden been allowed to tell all her story she would have made the matter much more clear. Mr. Waller said if Mrs. Hayden could throw any light upon the question as to who murdered the girl, he wanted her recalled to the witness stand. The defense had made all kinds of insinuations in this case. First, they insinuated that there was a conspiracy between Susan Hawley and Charles Stannard to kill the girl; next, the probability of Ben Stevens having been the murderer was intimated; now it was attempted to fix upon the name of Andrew Hazlett. The State thought this testimony improper, irrelevant, and inadmissible.

Argument was continued at much length, the court finally deciding the testimony admissible. Mr. Davis thereupon produced his account-book, in which the name appeared as "Hazley" several times. On cross-examination, the witness declined to swear that he had ever heard the man say his name was anything but Hazlett, and was not positive that he had ever given the man a bill with the name spelled "Hasley." He thought, however, that he had done so. Asked to name a person whom he had ever heard call the man "Hasley," the witness said he could not at the time recall any one. He had, however, never heard him called "Hazlett."

Nehemiah Burr, Fillmore Scranton, and Henry E. Scranton, old residents of Rockland, testified that they had never heard of Big Rock, Whippoorwill Rock, or Fox Ledge until after the homicide.

In the course of Mr. Burr's cross-examination Mr. Waller asked:

"When you were a boy, and went whortleberrying in that locality, didn't you ever hear any names given to those rocks?"

"I never went berrying."

"What did you do when you were a boy?"

"I carted cheese."

Mr. Waller thereupon closed his cross-examination, while a laugh went round the court-room.

At 6 P. M. court was adjourned until 9 A. M. to-morrow.

THE BROOKLYN RING FRAUDS.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL SCHOONMAKER DISCONTINUES AN IMPORTANT SUIT.

By order of Attorney-General Schoonmaker, the suit brought in the name of the people against William A. Fowler, E. G. Lowber, and Archibald Bliss, members of the old Water Board of Brooklyn, and Abner C. Keeney, a partner of William C. Kingsley, contractors, in connection with the building of the Third-avenue sewer, has been discontinued. The suit is only one of a series which have been instituted against members of the Brooklyn Ring within the last few years, to recover moneys of which there was every reason to believe that much-plundered city had been robbed. It was begun in 1875, by order of Attorney-General Pratt. John M. Parsons, of this City, being retained by the Attorney-General to prosecute it, and was for the recovery of $178,000, which was alleged to have been stolen in building the Third-avenue sewer by Contractors Keeney and Kingsley, acting in collusion with the three members of the Water Board named above. Litigation in it was suspended by the efforts made to bring to a successful issue another suit against Kingsley & Keeney, for the recovery of nearly $500,000 alleged to have been stolen in the building of the Hempstead Storage Reservoir. At the time of the construction of the Third-avenue sewer, Water Commissioner Bliss was a Republican of the McLaughlin stripe, and his passage into the ranks of the Liberals and subsequently to the Democrats was an easy and natural transition. Fowler and Lowber were Democrats, ready to take any chance at the bidding of their masters. There were a number of other alleged fraudulent transactions connected with the old Water Board, but the evidence in the Third-avenue sewer case seemed so clear and convincing that it was selected to be first tried. The contract to build the sewer was obtained by J. H. Van Winkle, a wealthy and responsible man, who was doing the work honestly and for a reasonable price. Under the pretext that he was not doing the work quickly enough, Fowler, Bliss & Lowber broke the contract and gave the work to their C. Keeney, Kingsley's partner. The work of building the sewer was more than half done, yet for completing the unfinished part the Ring contractors received more than Mr. Van Winkle was to have received for building the entire sewer. It was estimated that the City was defrauded of $200,000 by the operation. Holding these suits over the heads of the Ring since 1875, Tilden, it is said, has had absolute control of the Democratic delegation from Kings County to every State convention. So anxious have the Ring men been to get rid of those suits, they circulated a petition privately for signature asking the Attorney-General to consent to a discontinuance. This petition was signed among others by prominent clergymen, who would probably hesitate to openly put their names to such a document.

The order of discontinuance, it was learned last night, was signed by Attorney-General Schoonmaker the day before Christmas, and on the day after a copy of it had been received by Keeney and his partner, Mr. Parsons, whose connection with the suit had never been severed, received about the same time the ultimatum of the Attorney-General in the shape of a long document, in which that officer says that he has been memorialized to discontinue the suit by a large number of the most wealthy and respectable citizens of Brooklyn. He thinks that the suits could not be successfully maintained, and says he believes the public interest require that they be no further prosecuted. Mr. Parsons said the suits were brought in good faith, and that he knows nothing of their having been used to make political capital. Efforts were made, but unsuccessfully, to induce Attorney-General Fairchild to discontinue these suits as he was on the eve of retiring from office. Mr. Parsons said he supposed the present action was taken in consequence of the approaching change in the administration of the affairs of the State. When asked what he thought about successfully maintaining the suits, Mr. Parsons said it would not be proper for him to express an opinion.

JOHN STILLWELL'S WILL CONTESTED.

Yesterday, before Surrogate Owen T. Coffin, at White Plains, the will of the late John Stillwell, of Yonkers, who died on the 9th of December, was offered for probate. The witnesses to its signing, Reuben W. Van Pelt and Charles E. Waring, were present and proved the will and signature as having been executed at the office of the former on April 23, 1877. John Stillwell was married twice and had three children by each wife. The three children of the first wife, who do not think they received their proper share of the estate, which is valued at about $400,000, contest the will on the ground that undue influence was brought to bear on the testator in making his will, and also on the ground that the will is later will in existence which has not yet been produced. The three children contesting the will are William Stillwell, who is bequeathed a life estate in two stores in Yonkers worth $15,000, which will give him an annual income of about $1,200; Martha J. Hoyt, and Anson H. Hoyt, who is given the annual rentals of property amounting to about $700, and Caroline M. Ackerman, wife of William G. Ackerman, the interest on $10,000 per annum for life. The contestants moved for the appointment of a Receiver who should make a careful inventory of the estate, inform both sides when he would do it, and make his report in four hours. The Surrogate reserved decision on the motion. By the terms of the will, Cornelia F. Stillwell, widow of deceased, Caroline Ackerman, a daughter, and Benjamin W. Stillwell, a son, were made the Executors of the will. Deceased was 76 years of age at the time of his death. His mental condition at that time being a matter of dispute by the contestants. The case was adjourned till the 12th of January next, when witnesses will be examined.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARIES.

About 3 P. M., yesterday, Mr. C. J. Rüfer, a butcher, caught two men attempting to break into the rear of his store, No. 60 Orchard-street, but they escaped, as the hallway in which he encountered them was dark, and they could see him, while they were invisible to him. It is believed that the same men, about 7 o'clock, entered No. 53 Orchard-street to commit a burglary. At that hour Mrs. Zelda Rosen, aged 75, a German Jewess and a widow, left her apartment on the second floor of this house to pay a visit to the housekeeper, Mrs. Reiter, who was sick. She remained with her about a quarter of an hour. Meantime, Mrs. Gottheimer, who lives in the rear house, went to the head of the stairs of the front house, and two men rushed past her. Just after Mrs. Zelda Rosen came out of Mrs. Reiter's room, and, going to the door of her apartment, found that is had been forced, and that a quantity of clothing lay on the floor, packed up to take away. Mrs. Rosen shrieked, and, crying "I am fainting," and fell dead. Her son Max, who lives at No. 220 East Sixteenth-street, says that she died of heart disease, with which she had suffered for 20 years. Detective Wade arrested three men on suspicion of being the burglars who were the indirect cause of Mrs. Rosen's death, but they were discharged for want of evidence.

THE DELTA PHI.

The Delta Phi Fraternity, one of the college Greek letter societies, met in biennial session yesterday afternoon in the society's rooms, at No. 925 Broadway. About 40 delegates were present from the various chapters. Among the colleges represented were Union, Alpha Chapter; Brown University, Beta Chapter; New-York University, Gamma Chapter; Columbia, Delta Chapter; Rutgers, Epsilon Chapter; Troy Polytechnic Institute, Lambda Chapter, and the two new ones, The Hon. George H. Sharpe, of Kingston, N. Y., presides over the convention. Only preliminary routine business was transacted yesterday. The convention will remain in session to-day and to-morrow, and will elect officers for the ensuing two years. At 7 o'clock this evening, the delegates and their society friends will dine at Delmonico's.

THE STEAMER ARRAGON SAFE.

A cable dispatch was published yesterday, which stated that the steam-ship Arragon, which sailed from this port for Bristol on Nov. 26, had been lost at sea, with all on board. Mr. W. D. Morgan, of No. 70 South-street, the great hero of the Great Western Line, to which the Arragon belongs, says she arrived at Bristol on Dec. 11, and sailed again on the 19th, and is not due before Saturday at the earliest. He feels no anxiety about the vessel, and pronounces the rumor of her loss to be a hoax. A cable dispatch was received yesterday from the Bristol Offices of the line, but no mention whatever of the Arragon was made in it.

GENERAL TELEGRAPH NEWS

THE LOUISIANA LOTTERY SUIT.

THE ARGUMENTS ON THE APPLICATION FOR AN INJUNCTION AGAINST POSTMASTER-GENERAL KEY ENDED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The argument in the case of M. A. Dauphin, manager of the Louisiana Lottery Company, against the Postmaster-General, was concluded to-day, Senator Carpenter, ex-Congressman Southard, and Judge Bartley, appearing for the complainant, and Judge Freeman, Assistant Attorney-General for the Post Office Department, Judge C. A. Bay, and Mr. A. H. Bissell, appearing for the Postmaster-General. The complainant rests his application for an injunction upon the following propositions: First, that the act of Congress upon which the action of the Postmaster-General is based is unconstitutional and void, as vesting judicial power in the Postmaster-General, as inflicting punishment without trial, and as "depriving the person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law;" second, that it is the duty of the judicial branch of the Government to restrain proceedings of the Postmaster-General which would produce results forbidden by the Constitution; third, that an injunction mandatory in fact will be granted by a court of equity whenever it is necessary to restrain a continuing wrong, and that the Postmaster at New-Orleans is the Postmaster-General's agent in continuing the wrong.

The arguments for the Postmaster-General, briefly stated, is as follows: The act is constitutional first, because it does not confer judicial powers, but simply calls for the exercise of judicial functions necessary for administrative purposes; second, that it does not deprive the citizens of all facilities, but only of certain postal facilities, and that this is only as a result, and not the purpose of the statute, which is the "protection of the mails;" that the registry system of peculiar privileges to be enjoyed only by those who do not abuse it and subject to the condition expressed in this case by the Postmaster-General; that this is not a ministerial function to be exercised by the Postmaster-General, but an act of judgment and discretion, which is not the subject of a mandamus; that Senator Carpenter made the closing arguments in behalf of the petitioner, and the court then took the case under advisement.

SHOOTING PIGEONS FOR PRIZES.

MARKSMEN'S CONTESTS AT SOMERVILLE, TREMLEY, AND TRENTON.

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Dec. 29.—A return pigeon-match of 50 birds a side was contested here this afternoon between M. L. Treadwell, of New-York, and M. C. Johnston, of New-Jersey. In a match of 25 birds a side, shot between these contestants on the 20th inst., Johnston was victorious. The match to-day was for a pool of $100, 50 birds a side, find trap and handle, Long Island rules. Both men stood back 25 yards. The birds were much poorer than the last upon which these marksmen tested their respective merits, and had to be "bowled" from the trap, as a general thing turning out slow quarterers or lazy incomers. The scores, as a consequence, were good. The victory this time went to the New-Yorker by 2 birds, the respective scores standing: Treadwell, 43; Johnston, 41.

RAHWAY, Dec. 29.—A number of New-Jersey pigeon-shots contested for a marksman's badge made of silver, at Tremley, to-day. The following were the conditions of the match: Five birds, R. and T. traps, 21 yards rise, 80 yards boundary, one and a quarter ounces of shot, ties to be shot off at 3 birds, entrance $2; entrance money to be divided between first and second men. The winner of the trophy and first money was Gilbert Henderson, who tied with Forster on 5 birds. Fourteen-birds tied for second money—each killing 4 birds. It took 7 birds to decide the tie, which was won by E. Murray.

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 29.—A pigeon contest of some importance took place here this morning between Dick Wood, of Camden, and Will De Ford, the well-known "wing" marksman from Rochester, N. Y. The match was for $200, 50 birds each, number of birds to kill each man being 50. The other conditions were 30 yards rise, 5 ground traps, 5 yards apart, 80 yards boundary, Hurlingham English rules. Each man found the best 50 birds he could, the birds being mixed and trapped by a disinterested person. The betting was about equal on the contestants. The following is the summary:

| | | |

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

SALES AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE—DEC. 29.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS—10:15 A. M.

U. S. 5s C., '81. $10,000 ..... 103⅛
U. S. 4s C. 1907. 10,000..bes3104⅛

FIRST BOARD—10:30 A. M.

$2,000 107
5,000 ..... 107⅛
10,000 105
1,000 ..... 103⅛
5,000 ..... 93½
5,000 ..... 103⅛
1,000 98
5,000 118
1,000 118
5,000 ..... 114⅝
5,000 ..... 115⅝
5,000 ..... 114⅝
5,000 114
5,000 114
5,000 114

THE REAL ESTATE MARKET.

The following business was transacted at the Exchange yesterday, Monday, Dec. 29:

Richard V. Harnett foreclosure sale, R. B. Gwilliam, Esq., Referee, sold the two three-story brownstone-front dwellings, with lots, each 16.7 by 100.5, on West 62d-st. north side, 100 feet east of 10th-av., for $16,200, to Charles F. Gaither. Also, similar sale, Joseph S. Auerbach, Esq., Referee, disposed of one lot, 25 by 100.11, on West 110th-st. south side, 325 feet west of 7th-av., for $6,600, to J. H. Sessems, plaintiff. Also, similar sale, A. H. Wagner, Esq., Referee, sold the three-story brick dwelling, with lot 17 by 100.11, No. 109 East 121st-st., north side, 125 feet east of 4th-av., for $6,465, to 76th Power.

A. J. Bleecker & Son, foreclosure sale, P. J. Joachimsen, Esq., Referee, sold one lot, 25.6 by 98, on Avenue A, east side, 25.6 feet north of 72d-st., for $3,347, to C. P. Schaarsch.

The remaining sales were disposed of as follows: Sale by Hugh N. Camp, of dwelling, with lot, No. 232 East 126th-st., west of 2d-av., was adjourned to Dec. 31, and sale by D. M. Seaman, of one lot, on East 114th-st. west of 4th-av., was withdrawn.

RECORDED REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

NEW-YORK.

Monday, Dec. 29.

Broadway, s. w. corner of 54th-st. 59.4x[illegible] 3½ O'er irregular; Mary L. Robinson and husband to Ellen B. Brown, 1-3 interest $8,000
Lister-av., No. 64; Simon Wimarth to Gottfried Kreiler ..... nom.
Madison-av., w. s. 50.5 ft. s. of 85th-st. 50x95; John H. Stevens, Executor, &c., to Samuel M. Fox, Executor, &c. ..... nom.
2d-av., w. s. 50.5 ft. n. of 113th-st. 50x80x irregular; Sarah A. Cooper and others to Smith Ely, Jr. 6,800
1st-av., s. w. corner of 77th-st. 78x102.2; Catherine F. Ramsey and husband to Joseph Schwenker ..... nom.
9th-av., w. s. 50.5 ft. n. of 52d-st. 25x100; Edward Vreeland and another, Executors, &c., to John Martha 8,400
8th-av., w. s. 50.5 ft. s. of 53d-st. 25.1x100; Edward Appelbaum and others to David W. Bishop 35,000
110th-st. No. 152 East; Mary Neidig to Andrew G. Stevens 10,000
110th-st., s. s. 100 ft. w. of 5th-av. 25x100.11; Cornelius J. Kane to Francis Blessing ..... nom.
132d-st., s. s. 343.4 ft. w. of 5th-av. 16.8x100.11; Eleanor J. Mead and husband to Ellen Beth M. Brennan 6,000
117th-st., s. s. 383.10 1-3 ft. w. of 3d-av. 18.2-3x100.11; A. B. Tappen, Referee, to James Dunn and another, Executors 4,400
119th-st., s. s. 100 ft. e. of 5th-av. 100x100.10; J. M. Boyd and wife to Benjamin Knower 10,000
61st-st., s. s. 179 ft. e. of Madison-av. 16x100.5; J. M. Hazeltine to Francis P. Ferguson 22,000
67th-st., s. s. 125 ft. e. of 5th-av. 25x100.5; George W. Tucker to Emilia W. Chanin 32,500
80th-st., s. s. 98 ft. e. of 7th-av. 46x98.9; R. A. McCaffrey, Referee, to Cornelia Collins 8,000
96th-st., s. s. 100 ft. w. of 3d-av., Lot No. 72, 25x98.9; Jacob Campbell and wife to John Lyon 3,800
119th-st., s. s. 180 ft. w. of 3d-av. 20.10x84; Joseph Cohen to Annette Schaffer 8,000
36th-st., s. s. to e. s. 67th-st., w. of tracks of New-York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company to Hudson River; Josiah Lombard and others, Executors, &c., to Vanderbilt, (subject to mortgage for $32,382) 260,500
128th-st., s. s. 350 ft. w. of Home-av.; to s. s. 127th-st., 100x200; the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New-York to Jacob Campbell 12,000
Madison-av., w. s. 50.5 ft. s. of 85th-st. 50x95; Samuel M. Fox, Executor, &c., to W. H. Mead, Trustee, &c. ..... nom.
72d-st., s. s. 200 ft. w. of 3d-av., 25x100.8½; Henry Stollmeyer and wife to Edward Appelbaum and another 6,500
74th-st., s. s., 150 ft. w. of 3d-av. 50x102.2; Edward Oppenheimer and wife to William H. Browning 10,250
40th-st., s. s., 77.6 ft. e. of 10th-av., 22.6x74.1; Lewis Fink and wife to John Fink and another 3,500
146th-st., s. s., 400 ft. e. of 10th-av., to "Bloomingdale road," 138x99.11x irregular; Benjamin P. Fairchild to Newton American 8,600
146th-st., s. s., 800 ft. e. of 10th-av., 125x99.11; Newton American and wife to George Lesak 10,000
Bedgwick-av., w. s., 24th Ward, 1 88-100 acres; also, 176-100 acres on w. s. of Sedgwick-av.; also, 1 91-100 acres on w. s. of Bedgwick-av. and, also, piece of land e. s. of Spuyten Duyvil and Port Morris Railroad Company, 145.8x irregular; and, also, 3 13-100 acres of upland and 1 14-100 acres of meadow, all adjoining; Lewis G. Morris to Joseph H. Godwin 22,000
Same property; Gulian L. Dashwood to Lewis G. Morris 20,000
Sedgwick-av., w. s., 1 91-100 acres; Emma Dashwood to Gulian L. Dashwood ..... nom.
William-st., No. 365; also, No. 70 Ridridge-st., 25x87.6; also, e. s. Christie-st., Lot No. 321, 25x100; also, s. s. 11th-st. 148.6 ft. e. of Avenue B, 21.10½ ft. and also, 2 2-12 ft. w. of 8th-av., 22.10½ ft. and, also, personal property; William F. Pinchback to Joseph Howlett ..... nom.
150th-st., s. s. 425 ft. e. of 10th-av., 25x99; Cornelius Donovan to Margaret Hutcheon 1,900
58th-st., s. s. 206.10 ft. w. of 9th-av., 21.10½x100.5; Henry Hasemeier to Anthony W. Miller 4,800
1st-av., s. w. corner of 58th-st., 100x100.4; Daniel W. Chaney to George W. Mallory 100
67th-st., s. s., 205.5 ft. e. of 1st-av., 200x121.8 x irregular; Franklin Satterthwaite and wife to George W. Mahoney 100
112th-st., s. s. 80 ft. e. of 1st-av., 20x100.11; J. R. Silkman, Referee, to Hannah W. Donnelly 3,535
116th-st., s. s. 50 ft. e. of 126th-st., 75x75; the Bowery Savings Bank to Bernard Fallmann 7,000

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGES.

Ætna Fire Insurance Company to F. A. Conkling and others, Trustees, &c. $1,000
Amerman, N. D., Mary A. Davidson 3,000
Gilmore, D. D., to W. S. Gilford 13,343
Same to Same 14,160
Equitable Life Assurance Society to Sarah A. Miller 7,500
Fox, Samuel M., Executor, &c., to W. H. Mead, Trustee, &c. ..... nom.
Falconte, Hannah C., to Ernst H. Harb 10,000
Gilford, T. R., to Catharine Lynch ..... nom.
Same to Same ..... nom.
Langdon, W. G., and another, Executors, &c., to Catharine M. Jones 4,500
Murphy, Mary G., Executrix, &c., to E. H. Hartt, guardian, &c. 2,500
New-York Bowery Fire Insurance Company to Charles Blum and another 2,500
Sayre, R. D., Executor, &c., to E. G. Black and another 7,614
Townsend, J. J., and another, Trustees, &c., to Silas Tuska 5,232

MORTGAGES RECORDED.

Barry, H. M., to W. H. Mead, Trustee, &c., w. s. Madison-av. s. of 65th-st., 3 mortgages, 1 year $16,000
Beekman, J., and wife to the Mount Sinai Hospital; s. e. corner of 3d-av. and 21st-st., 3 years 10,000
Browning, William H., and wife to E. Oppenheimer, s. s. 74th-st., 150 w. 3d-av., 1 year 16,250
Casper, L., and wife to Charles A. Baddeschik; s. s. corner of 2d-av. and 110th-st., 5 mortgages, 3 months, total ..... ----
Cary, L., and wife to William H. Bell; s. s. 110th-st., e. of 2d-av., 6 months 1,188
Christie, William, and another to William A. Caldwell; s. s. 104th-st., w. of 3d-av., 2 mortgages, 3 years, total 11,000
Conklin, George R., to J. O. Brown; n. s. 127th-st., w. of 3d-av. 500
Donnelly, Hannah W., and husband to J. R. Silkman, Referee, &c.; s. s. 112th-st., e. of 1st-av., 1 year 3,000
Donohue, James, and wife to Miss F. Brown; e. s. corner of Lexington-av. and 91st-st., 2 months 6,000
Donohue, James, and wife to John A. Weekes; e. s. of Lexington-av., n. of 91st-st.; 2 mortgages, 3 years, total 12,000
Donohue, James, and wife to John A. Weekes, Trustee, &c., e. s. Lexington-av. and 91st-st., 3 mortgages, 3 years, total 12,000
Donohue, James, and wife to Harriet Cames; e. s. Lexington-av., n. of 91st-st., 3 years 6,000
Donohue, James, and wife to Henry De F. Weekes, Trustee, &c./c. s. Lexington-av. n. of 91st-st., 3 years 6,100
Donohue, James, and wife to Julius Kaisenberg; e. s. corner of Lexington-av. and 91st-st., 3 months 700
Frey, Dolt, and others to Mary A. A. Woodcock; s. s. Canal-st., w. of Ludlow-st., 3 years 6,500
Harman, Charles, and wife to Christie Hartman and another; n. s. 24th-st., e. of 3d-av., 1 year 3,000
Hattorpe, Margaret C., and husband to E. Donohue; s. s. 106th-st., e. of 10th-av. 800
Johnston, Emma J., and husband to H. A. Valentine, Executor, &c.; s. s. 87th-st., w. of Avenue A, 3 years 6,000
Lambert, Martha, and husband to the Mutual Life Insurance Company; s. s. 126th-st., 100 e. 5th-av., 3 years 9,000
Lent, George, to E. Ammerman; s. s. 146th-st., 100 e. 10th-av., 3 years 3,000
Leach, Sophia, and husband to Charlotte Frensel; s. s. 141st-st., e. of Alexander-av., 3 years 2,000
McConaghy, J., and wife to F. W. Murphy; s. s. Bible-st., s. of Delancey-st., 3 years 8,000
Miller, Julia C., to F. N. Hollister, Trustee, &c.; n. w. corner of Irving-place and 16th-st., 1 year 14,000
Murray, Joseph, and wife to H. Dyer; No. 104 East 123th-st., 3 years 8,000
Ormiston, Margaret, to J. Whitsit; s. s. 85th-st., e. of 10th-av. 5,000
Pfaff, F., Receiver, &c., to C. J. Murray; s. s. 31st-st., w. of 3d-av., 3 years 8,000
Rowe, Cornelia J., and husband to H. A. Bartling and others, Trustees, &c.; n. s. 87th-st., s. of Madison-av., 3 years 20,000
Faber, Charles C. and others to Caroline De Yonge ..... 1 s. Riverside-av. s. of 119th-st., 1 year. 10,000
Faber, Charles C. and others to Margaret E. De Forest; s. s. corner of Riverside-av. and 119th-st., 1 year 40,000

CITY REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE—IN HARLEM AND NEW-YORK, A large number of houses, from $7,000 upward. IRVING & LORD, No. 25 William-st.

STORES, &C., TO LET.

OFFICES TO LET IN THE TIMES BUILDING. APPLY TO GEORGE JONES, TIMES OFFICE.

TO LET OR LEASE—NOS. 597 AND 599 BROADWAY, corner Prince-st. basement and 4-story modern building with stean for hoisting and heating; will be offered at reduced rent; immediate possession; will be altered if required. Apply to HORACE E. ELY, No. 52 Pine-st.

REAL ESTATE WANTED.

VACANT LOTS WANTED—TO PURCHASE OR exchange for improved property. IRVING & LORD, No. 25 William-st.

BROOKLYN REAL ESTATE.

TO LET—ONE OF A HOUSE, RENTALS $1,000 (houses in New-York rent $3,500) 10 rooms, all improvements; Halsey-street cars, Fulton Ferry, pass the door, also, Bowabite-av. from Williamsburg. OWNER, No. 856 Halsey-st., Brooklyn.

COUNTRY HOUSES TO LET.

TO LET—FOR ONE OR MORE YEARS, A FIRST-class house, furnished or unfurnished, with gas, buildings and 10 acres, on the Hudson, one mile south of Yonkers Station. For particulars, address 605 5th-av.

FINANCIAL.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE CONTINENTAL NATIONAL BANK, New-York, at the close of business on the 12th day of December, 1879:

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts	$4,438,790 39
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	867,000 00
Other U. S. Bonds on hand	50,000 00
Other stocks, bonds, &c.	78,831 55
Overdrafts	171 59
Due from other national banks	148,761 72
Due from State banks and bankers	42,136 18
Banking-house	350,000 00
Other real estate	200,000 00
Current expenses and taxes paid	14,150 03
Premiums paid	17,475 00
Checks and other cash items	20,577 47
Exchanges for Clearing-House	3,971,761 56
Bills of other banks	7,877 00
Fractional currency, &c.	77
Specie	1,439,862 75
Legal-tender notes	82,518 00
United States certificates for legal tenders	15,000 00
Redemption fund	39,015 00
Total	$14,150,638 27

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in	$1,000,000 00
Surplus fund	100,000 00
Undivided profits	90,741 41
National bank notes outstanding	765,300 00
Dividends unpaid	3,823 00
Deposits:	
Individuals	$2,532,541 23
National banks	1,167,586 28
State banks and bankers	805,439 19
Certificates of deposit	11,552 28
	$4,543,992 25
Certified checks	5,669,074 20
Cashier's checks	108,406 31
Total	$14,150,638 27

State of New-York, County of New-York, ss.:

I, FREDK TAYLOR, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

FRED'K TAYLOR, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 24th day of December, 1879.

ALFD. H. THOMSON, Notary Public, N. Y. County.

Correct—Attest:

CHARLES H. MARSHALL,
HENRY M. TABER,
EDMUND D. RANDOLPH, } Directors.

TO THE HOLDERS OF THE INDIANA CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY'S 10 per cent Bonds secured under a mortgage of Oct. 1, 1856, to J. P. D. Lanier, Trustee. Notice is hereby given that under and in pursuance of the provisions in that behalf contained in the mortgage, heretofore made by The Indiana Central Railway Co. to said J. P. D. Lanier, Trustee, and bearing date Oct. 1, 1856, the undersigned, The Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central Railway Company, as the legal successor of the said The Indiana Central Railway Company, the mortgagor in said mortgage, and the present owner of the premises thereby mortgaged, having elected to exercise the option reserved by said mortgage and the bonds secured thereby, to pay off and discharge such bonds as hereinafter mentioned, will on the day for payment of the next semi-annual instalment of interest, viz., on the 1st day of January, 1880, pay, in such discharge, the principal sums and accrued interest to the time of such payment, of each and all of the outstanding bonds of the said The Indiana Central Railway Company, bearing interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, and amounting to $568,500, or thereabouts, issued under or secured by the above-mentioned mortgage.

Holders of such Bonds and the interest Coupons appertaining thereto are hereby notified to present the same for payment as aforesaid, at the office of A. Iselin & Co., No. 48 Wall-st., New-York City, where payment will accordingly be made.

This notice is given under and in pursuance of the order of Mr. Justice Harlan, made in the suit pending in the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Indiana, wherein Oliver S. Woodruff and William B. Woodruff against the Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central Railway Company, dated Oct. 14, 1879, as well as under and in pursuance of the provisions contained in the Mortgage of Bonds above described, in respect to paying off and discharging such Bonds before maturity.

New-York, Dec. 3, 1879.

THE COLUMBUS, CHICAGO AND INDIANA CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY.

JAMES A. ROOSEVELT,
WILLIAM R. TOSDICK, } Receivers, &c.

THE FARMERS' LOAN AND TRUST COMPANY,

NO. 26 EXCHANGE-PLACE, NEW-YORK.

CHARTERED 1822. CAPITAL, $1,000,000.

TRANSFER AGENTS AND REGISTRARS OF STOCK.

LEGAL DEPOSITORY FOR MONEY.

Capital and surplus invested in Government securities.

PARTIES DEPOSITING MONEY WITH THIS INSTITUTION will receive INTEREST from date of deposit, and may make and withdraw the same at pleasure.

EXECUTORS, TRUSTEES, AND OTHERS will be accorded every attention.

This company is authorized to act in every position of trust.

R. G. ROLSTON, President. G. F. TALMAN, Vice-Pres.
R. G. BOYD, Second Vice-Pres. G. P. FITCH, Secretary.
W. D. SEARLS, Assistant Secretary.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

MOSES TAYLOR, G. F. TALMAN,
J. J. ASTOR, SAMUEL SLOAN,
ISAAC BELL, ROBERT LENNOX KENNEDY.
R. G. ROLSTON.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 6, 1879.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT IN PURsuance of the terms of a Trust Deed executed to the undersigned by the JACKSON, LANSING AND SAGINAW RAILROAD COMPANY, as Trustees for the holders of bonds issued thereunder, (bearing date the 1st day of May A. D. 1870,) the following bonds of said company, bearing even date with said deed of trust, and payable at the Ninth National Bank, in New-York City, on the first day of May, A. D. 1899, have been drawn by lot, by the undersigned, for payment, viz.: Bonds numbered 362, 900, 513, 576, 321, 781, 499, 560, 716, 636, 340, 194, 139, 260, 444, 974, 519, 291, 279, 385, 648, 200, 417, 693, 93, 324, 919, 545, 562, 668, 53, 899, 594, 317, 601, 52, 871, 497, 578, 230, 566, 58a, 578, 262, 626, 49, 496, 58, 714.

The bonds so drawn and bearing the above numbers will be paid at the office of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, in New-York City, or at the Atlantic National Bank, in Boston, on the 3d day of January, 1880, during business hours. The holders thereof, or any of them, are requested to present them at said times and place for payment, and are hereby notified that thereafter each of said bonds will cease to bear interest.

J. M. DENISON,
J. F. JOY, } Trustees.

GEORGE OPDYKE & CO., BANKERS,

EQUITABLE BUILDING, BROADWAY, CORNER CEDAR-ST.

Do a General Banking Business; allow interest on deposits, buy and sell municipal and other investment bonds, and all securities dealt in at the Stock Exchange, and make liberal advances on same. WESTERN FARM MORTGAGE securities, yielding 8 and 10 PER CENT. INTEREST, for sale at PAR.

ST. JOSEPH CITY AND BUCHANAN COUNTY BONDS

BOUGHT AND SOLD BY

R. M. RAVEN & CO.,

NO. 15 WALL-ST.

CENTRAL R. R. OF IOWA BONDS.

PLINT AND PERE MARQUETTE R. R. BONDS.

FORT DUBUQUE AND LAKE MICHIGAN R. R. CERTIFICATES.

ATCHISON AND PIKE'S PEAK R. R. BONDS.

STOCK, LOAN AND SCRIP.

ST. JOSEPH AND WESTERN R. R. SECURITIES.

NEW-YORK AND OSWEGO R. R. CERTIFICATES.

NEW-JERSEY MIDLAND R. R. CERTIFICATES.

CITY OF LAWRENCE (KANSAS) BONDS.

DOUGLAS COUNTY (KANSAS) BONDS.

CITY OF ATCHISON (KANSAS) OLD BONDS.

INDIANAPOLIS AND ST. LOUIS R. R. BONDS.

Wanted by

WM. R. UTLEY, No. 31 Pine-st., New-York.

HENRY CLEWS & CO.,

BANKERS AND MEMBERS OF THE NEW-YORK STOCK EXCHANGE, NO. 12 NEW-ST., NEW-YORK.

Receive deposits subject to check on demand. Interest paid on daily balances. Our office being on the same floor and next door to the New-York Stock Exchange insures the execution of orders the instant received. The senior partner is in constant attendance at the board and gives this business his personal attention. Our connection with the Philadelphia, Boston, San Francisco, and London Exchanges enables us to execute orders thereat promptly and on favorable terms. Our office has five telegraphic indicators for the use of investors.

ST. LOUIS, IRON MOUNTAIN AND SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY, No. 20 NASSAU-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1879.

THE TRANSFER-BOOKS OF THE FIRST AND SECOND PREFERRED INCOME BONDS of this company will be closed Dec. 31, 1879, at 3 o'clock P. M., and will be reopened 10 o'clock A. M. Jan. 20, 1880. Holders of outstanding consolidated bond interest certificates and partly-paid coupons will please present them before Dec. 31, 1879, for exchange into preferred income Bonds of the company.

D. W. MCWILLIAMS, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 51 WALL-ST., CORNER OF WILLIAM,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1879.

THE BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY WILL be closed on the 31st inst., preparatory to the annual statement. Persons holding policies on risks which shall then have terminated during the year prior to the 1st of January next are requested to furnish an account of the premiums thereon and a statement of all claims for returns of premiums, to prevent discrepancies in the account.

A. H. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

SMALLEY & HONE,

MEMBERS OF NEW-YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

BROKERS.

NO. 52 EXCHANGE PLACE.

Buy and sell on margins or for investors.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ALL claims not presented to H. B. ALEXANDER, Receiver of Columbia Life Insurance Company of St. Louis, Mo., on or before Dec. 31, 1879, will be forever barred in manner provided by the original order of court of June 2, 1879.

RAILROAD SECURITIES—WHETHER YOU want to buy, sell or exchange, write to R. M. GRANT & CO., Investors and Dealers, 7 Wall-st., New-York.

FINANCIAL.

FIRST AND SECOND MORTGAGE BONDS of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway Company

FOR SALE BY

J. S. KENNEDY & CO.,

No. 52 WILLIAM-ST.

TO THE HOLDERS OF THE INDIANA Central Railway Company's 10 per cent Bonds secured under mortgage of Oct. 1, 1856, to J. P. D. Lanier, Trustee. Notice is hereby given that under and in pursuance of the provisions in that behalf contained in the mortgage, heretofore made by The Indiana Central Railway Co. to said J. P. D. Lanier, Trustee, and bearing date Oct. 1, 1856, the undersigned, The Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central Railway Company, as the legal successor of the said The Indiana Central Railway Company, the mortgagor in said mortgage, and the present owner of the premises thereby mortgaged, having elected to exercise the option reserved by said mortgage and the bonds secured thereby, to pay off and discharge such bonds as hereinafter mentioned, will on the day for payment of the next semi-annual instalment of interest, viz., on the 1st day of January, 1880, pay, in such discharge, the principal sums and accrued interest to the time of such payment, of each and all of the outstanding bonds of the said The Indiana Central Railway Company, bearing interest at the rate of 10 per cent per annum, and amounting to $568,500, or thereabouts, issued under or secured by the above-mentioned mortgage.

Holders of such Bonds and the interest Coupons appertaining thereto are hereby notified to present the same for payment as aforesaid, at the office of A. Iselin & Co., No. 48 Wall-st., New-York City, where payment will accordingly be made.

This notice is given under and in pursuance of the order of Mr. Justice Harlan, made in the suit pending in the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Indiana, wherein Oliver S. Woodruff and William B. Woodruff against the Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central Railway Company, dated Oct. 14, 1879, as well as under and in pursuance of the provisions contained in the Mortgage of Bonds above described, in respect to paying off and discharging such Bonds before maturity.

New-York, Dec. 3, 1879.

THE COLUMBUS, CHICAGO AND INDIANA CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY.

By BENJAMIN E. SMITH, President.

JAMES A. ROOSEVELT,
WILLIAM R. TOSDICK, } Receivers, &c.

DIVIDENDS.

OFFICE OF THE LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY, LOUISVILLE, Dec. 23, 1879.

NASHVILLE AND NORTH ALABAMA RAILROAD COMPANY FIRST MORTGAGE SEVEN PER CENT. COUPONS.

EIGHTH AND NORTH ALABAMA RAILROAD COMPANY FIRST MORTGAGE EIGHT PER CENT. GOLD COUPONS.

All due Jan. 1, 1880, will be paid on and after that date, upon presentation at the office of the Treas., DEXEL, MORGAN & CO., corner Wall and Broad-sts., New-York.

W. RANNEY, Secretary.

SOUTHERN MINNESOTA RAILWAY COMPANY, No. 21 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK.—On and after Jan. 2, 1880, an interest payment of FORTY-TWO 85-100 DOLLARS, (being $35 on each bond and $7 36-100 on the pass-out coupons) on the conversion bonds of the Southern Minnesota Railway Company represented by certificates of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, will be made at the office of said Trust Company, No. 26 Exchange-place, New-York.

Transfer-books close Dec. 24, reopen Jan. 2.

CORNELIUS R. GOLD, Chairman Ex. Committee.

OFFICE OF THE LEADVILLE MINING COMPANY, No. 57 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 25, 1879.

DIVIDEND NO. 7.

The Board of Directors have this day declared dividend No. 7, of 1½ per cent. (15 cents per share,) on the capital stock ($9,000,000) of this company, payable at the office of the company, on and after Jan. 10, 1880. Transfer-books close Jan. 5 and reopen Jan. 12, 1880.

J. G. WESTON, Treasurer of Clinton Water-Works Company.

NOTICE.

The First National Bank of Hackensack, N. J., located at Hackensack, in the State of New-Jersey, is closing up its affairs. All note-holders and other creditors of said association are therefore hereby notified to present the notes and other claims against the association for payment.—Dated Dec. 10, 1879.

A. D. BROWER, Cashier.

THE LAKE SHORE AND MICHIGAN SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, CLEVELAND, CENTRAL DEPOT, NEW-YORK, Dec. 26, 1879.

THE BONDS OF THE CLEVELAND, Painesville and Ashtabula Railroad Company, dated Jan. 1, 1859, and due 1st of January next, will be paid at maturity, on behalf of this company, by Messrs. CHASE & ATKINS, No. 16 Broad-st.

E. D. WORCESTER, Treasurer.

SHELDON & WADSWORTH,

BANKERS, No. 10 Wall-st.

Offer for sale to investors following first mortgage railroad bonds:

Warwick Valley, Orange County, N. Y., 8 per cent.
Utah and Pleasant Valley 7 per cent.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,

NO. 59 WALL-ST.

ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

DIVIDENDS.

OFFICE OF THE LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY, LOUISVILLE, Dec. 23, 1879.

NASHVILLE AND NORTH ALABAMA RAILROAD COMPANY FIRST MORTGAGE SEVEN PER CENT. COUPONS.

EIGHTH AND NORTH ALABAMA RAILROAD COMPANY FIRST MORTGAGE EIGHT PER CENT. GOLD COUPONS.

All due Jan. 1, 1880, will be paid on and after that date, upon presentation at the office of the Treas., DEXEL, MORGAN & CO., corner Wall and Broad-sts., New-York.

W. RANNEY, Secretary.

CLINTON, Iowa, Dec. 1, 1879.

THE CLINTON WATER-WORKS COMPANY, of Clinton, Iowa, hereby gives notice that all of its bonds dated July 1, 1874, and all of its bonds dated Jan. 1, 1878, principal and interest will be paid at the Mercantile National Bank, New-York, on July 1, 1880, and interest will cease after that date.

J. G. WESTON, Treasurer of Clinton Water-Works Company.

NOTICE.

The First National Bank of Hackensack, N. J., located at Hackensack, in the State of New-Jersey, is closing up its affairs. All note-holders and other creditors of said association are therefore hereby notified to present the notes and other claims against the association for payment.—Dated Dec. 10, 1879.

A. D. BROWER, Cashier.

THE LAKE SHORE AND MICHIGAN SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, CLEVELAND, CENTRAL DEPOT, NEW-YORK, Dec. 26, 1879.

THE BONDS OF THE CLEVELAND, Painesville and Ashtabula Railroad Company, dated Jan. 1, 1859, and due 1st of January next, will be paid at maturity, on behalf of this company, by Messrs. CHASE & ATKINS, No. 16 Broad-st.

E. D. WORCESTER, Treasurer.

SHELDON & WADSWORTH,

BANKERS, No. 10 Wall-st.

Offer for sale to investors following first mortgage railroad bonds:

Warwick Valley, Orange County, N. Y., 8 per cent.
Utah and Pleasant Valley 7 per cent.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,

NO. 59 WALL-ST.

ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

DIVIDENDS.

THE FOLLOWING COUPONS ARE PAYABLE BY THE FARMERS' LOAN AND TRUST CO., NO. 26 EXCHANGE-PLACE, ON AND AFTER JAN. 2, 1880:

Dunkirk and Warsaw First Mortgage.
Buffalo, New-York and Philadelphia R. R. Co.
Carondelet Coal Co.
Cleveland and Pittsburg R. R. Co.
City of Evansville, Indiana.
Coney Island and Brooklyn R. R. Co.
Chicago, Cincinnati and Louisville R. R. Co.
Cherry Creek Town Company.
Alabama Great Southern R. R. Co.
Frankfort and Kokomo R. R. Co.
Hannibal and St. Joseph R. R. Co.
Houston City Street R. R. Co.
Indiana Block Coal Co.
Indianapolis, Pera and Chicago R. R. Co.
Jefferson, Madison and Indianapolis R. R. Co.
Ottawa, Oswego and Fox River R. R. Co.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Co.
Quincy and Warsaw R. R. Co.
Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg R. R. Co.
Syracuse Northern R. R. Co.
Southern Minnesota R. R. Co.
The Thomas Iron Co.
Evansville and Crawfordsville R. R. Co.
Evansville, Terre Haute and Chicago R. R. Co.
Council Bluff and Nebraska Co. Bonds.
Council Bluff and St. J. R. R. Coupons.

OFFICE OF THE LEADVILLE MINING AND SMELTING COMPANY, LEADVILLE, Col., No. 58 BROADWAY, ROOMS 12 AND 13, NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1879.

DIVIDEND NO. 4.

The Board of Trustees have this day declared a dividend of SEVEN AND ONE-HALF CENTS per share (par value $10) on the capital stock, payable on Friday, Jan. 2, proximo, at the office of the company. Transfer books will close on Saturday, Dec. 27, and reopen Saturday, Jan. 3, 1880.

Statement of the financial condition of the company:

Cash Capital	$160,000 00
Dec. 1, 1879—Balance surplus account	25,666 80
	$185,666 80
Less cash to construction account	
Furnaces, &c.	8,848 25—12,085 00
	$173,581 80
Dividend of 7½ per share, 200,000 shares	38,000 00
Leaving cash balance, Dec. 1, 1879	$135,581 80

NEW-YORK, Dec. 27, 1879.

NOTICE.—COUPONS OF THE FOLLOWING Bonds, maturing Jan. 1, 1880, will be paid, on and after Jan. 2, at the office of Messrs. JESUP, PATON & CO., No. 32 Nassau-st., New-York:

Chicago and Alton First Mortgage.
Chicago and Alton Second Mortgage.
St. Louis, Jacksonville and Chicago Second Mortgage.
Alabama Central First Mortgage.
Dubuque and Sioux City First Mortgage.
Joliet and Chicago First Mortgage.
Dubuque and Dakota First Mortgage.
Joliet Steel Company First Mortgage.
Joliet Steel Company Second Mortgage.

ATLANTIC, MISSISSIPPI AND OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY.—The interest on the Divisional Bonds, which falls due Jan. 1, 1880, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, at the office of the Receivers, No. 23 Nassau-st., New-York. The United States Court has directed the Receivers to pay interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum on the bonds of the Memphis Division, on what are known as the Decatur H. Miller Trust Bonds. The interest on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad Consolidated and Preferred Stock will be paid at the office of the Receivers at Lynchburg, Va.

C. L. PERKINS,
HENRY FINK, } Receivers.

METROPOLITAN ELEVATED RAILWAY COMPANY, No. 71 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1879.

A QUARTERLY DIVIDEND OF TWO AND ONE-HALF PER CENT. upon the capital stock of this company will be paid on and after the 2d day of January next, at the Central Trust Company, No. 15 Nassau-st., New-York, to the stockholders of record on the 23d inst. The transfer-books will be closed at 2 o'clock P. M. on the 23d inst. and reopened on the morning of the 3d of January next.

JOHN E. BODY, Treasurer.

DIVIDEND.

BANK OF AMERICA, New-York, Dec. 19, 1879.

The President and Directors of the Bank of America have this day declared a dividend of THREE AND ONE-HALF (3½) per cent. for the current half year, free from tax, payable to the stockholders on and after Friday, Jan. 2, 1880.

The transfer-books will remain closed from this date until the morning of Jan. 3, 1880.

ROBERT JAFFRAY, Cashier.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1879.

THIRTY-SECOND DIVIDEND.—The Directors have this day declared a dividend of Three and a Half per Cent. (3½) free of tax, out of the earnings of the past six months, payable 2d January, 1880. Transfer-books will close 23d inst. till that date.

ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

THE ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS AND MANITOBA RAILWAY COMPANY.—The coupons due Jan. 1, 1880, on the first mortgage bonds of this company, also, on the $700,000 issue of mortgages bonds of the first division of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Company, will be paid by the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway Company, on presentation, on and after Jan. 2, 1880, at the office of the company, No. 63 William-st., New-York.

J. S. KENNEDY & CO., Fiscal Agents.

BROOKLYN TRUST COMPANY.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Dec. 17, 1879.

The Board of Trustees of this Company have this day declared a dividend of FOUR PER CENT. on the capital stock, out of the earnings of the present six months, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1880.

The transfer-books will be closed from Dec. 27 to the day of payment.

WILLIAM R. BUNKER, Secretary.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17, 1879.

THE BODIE CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY has declared an assessment of Five Dollars per share, payable at the office of LAIDLAW & CO., No. 12 Pine-st., New-York, Jan. 2, 1880, on all stock issued from the New-York Transfer Agency. Transfer-books close on Jan. 26th inst., and reopen 3d proximo.

WM. R. LENT, Secretary.

THE UNION TRUST COMPANY OF NEW-York, Trustee, will pay, on and after Jan. 2, 1880, $38 upon the coupons maturing Jan. 1, 1880, on the bonds of the Union Pacific Railway Company, (Southern Branch.) Have been stamped, subject to the agreement of March 1, 1876.

Coupons must be left over night for examination.

EDWARD KING, President.

THE JERSEY CITY AND ALBANY RAILWAY COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, No. 115 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 29, 1879.

THE COUPONS DUE JAN. 1, 1880, ON the first mortgage Preferred Bonds of this company will be paid on and after Jan. 2, 1880, at this office.

FREDERIC A. POTTS, Tre

THE TEHUANTEPEC ROUTE

DISCUSSING THE INTEROCEANIC CANAL.

A PROPOSED NEW ROUTE EXPLAINED AT THE MEETING OF THE AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY—SETTING FORTH ITS ADVANTAGES.

The fourth, and last, meeting for the discussion of the various interoceanic canal projects, was held by the American Geographical Society, in its rooms, No. 11 West Twenty-ninth-street, last evening. Chief-Justice Daly presided, and among the prominent persons present were Judge Curtis, Gen. George W. Cullum, Gen. Egbert L. Viele, Col. D. Woodruff, and Major S. F. Shalburne. A large map of Central America and the lower part of Mexico, showing the proposed routes, was used by the speakers to illustrate their remarks. The first gentleman called upon by Judge Daly was Mr. H. H. Hall, who told his audience of a new route proposed over the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. The Mexican Government has granted to a company, of which Mr. Hall is one, the right to build a railroad and a canal across this isthmus, and work on the railroad has already been begun. By the terms of the grant, the eastern, or Atlantic terminus of the road is to be at the mouth of the Coatzcoalcas River, 110 miles south-east from Vera Cruz. The road is to run thence south-westerly across the plains to the mountain range; thence across the range through the Chivela Pass, and, after leaving the mountains, across the plains again to a large inland lake known as the Upper Lagoon, on the Pacific coast. The length of the road is estimated at 150 miles, but with the sidings and turnouts it will possibly reach 160 miles. The cost is put down at from $4,500,000 to $5,000,000, and when the line is completed Mr. Hall thinks that San Francisco can be reached from this City in 11 or 12 days. He believes that the work will be done in about three years, and in the meantime the practicability of building a ship canal across the isthmus is to be thoroughly discussed. Mr. Hall was enthusiastic in his advocacy of such a canal, and he believes that Tehuantepec is the only really available locality for such a work. Just outside the mouth of the Coatzcoalcas there is a sand-bar in the Atlantic, which would have to be removed in order to make a safe harbor, but the sand is not shifting, and when the work was once done there would be no danger of the bar forming again. The lagoon on the Pacific coast is but two and a half miles from the ocean, and a canal of that length will have to be cut to accommodate the new railroad. The lagoon is 25 miles long, 6 miles wide, and has an average depth of from 16 to 19 feet. The Chivela Pass, through which the railroad is to run, is about 25 miles in width, and this would have to be tunneled should the proposed canal be built. The tunnel would be 170 feet in height from the water level of the canal, 125 feet in width, and 12 miles in length. The material to be cut through was largely sand, and the speaker thought the construction of this monster tunnel would not present insuperable difficulties to the engineer. "I believe," said Mr. Hall, "that if the interoceanic canal is ever built it will be built right here. On the Nicaragua route, we have got to pass a river, which I believe to be impossible to keep dredged, in points of health there is no comparison between the two routes. Tehuantepec is blessed with a climate than which there is no better or more healthy in the world. Earthquakes have been unknown on the Isthmus for years. There is one trouble to be provided against. Nearly all the wood on the eastern part of the Isthmus and canal is such as is valuable to be used in building railroads or canals. We are shipping all our railroad ties now from Florida, but in the interior there is plenty of suitable timber for all purposes of construction."

The advantages claimed by the speaker for the Tehuantepec route are many and important. Mr. Hall is connected with the Australian line of steamers which carry the mails from Sidney to Liverpool by way of San Francisco. This service now takes 43 days, but with a ship-canal across Tehuantepec he estimates that it can be performed in 33 days. Off the coast of Tehuantepec, both on the Atlantic and Pacific sides, the trade winds are constantly blowing, so that sailing vessels would have no trouble in making the harbors leading to the canal. This condition does not exist on any of the other proposed routes. Along the Isthmus of Panama there is almost a perpetual calm at all seasons of the year, and this fact would render a canal at any particular point along that Isthmus practically useless to sailing vessels, most of which would in all probability be forced to take the old course around Cape Horn. So far as the interests of this country are concerned, the Tehuantepec route is decidedly the best. It would bring the canal close to the ports of Galveston, and an immense trade with the Pacific Islands would spring up, which in a few years would pay the entire cost of the construction of the canal. In distance alone about 1,300 miles would be saved in going from this City to San Francisco over the route proposed by way of Panama. This, he said, is an important fact in considering the canal in its bearing upon the future trade of this country.

John E. Body, President of the Central American Transit Company, which holds the grant for the Nicaraguan route, spoke in advocacy of that line, but he said nothing that has not been told in previous discussions. Frederick M. Kelley was in favor of the San Blas route, because it is the shortest, and good harbors, ready made, are at each end of the line. At the conclusion of his remarks the meeting adjourned.

FAILURE OF J. LLOYD HAIGH.

EMBARRASSED BY HIS WIRE CONTRACT WITH THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE TRUSTEES.

Much surprise was caused in the iron and steel trade yesterday by the announcement of the failure of J. Lloyd Haigh, manufacturer of wire, at No. 81 John-street. Mr. Haigh was the successful bidder for the contract for supplying wire for the Brooklyn bridge, his price being $501,600; he also furnished the wire for the Erie Canal Towing Company, and for the Atlantic cable. He had a large property, excellent credit and reputation, and was generally considered wealthy by the trade. His main factory was in Brooklyn, but last Summer he put up a small factory in Morrisania, at the New-York Athletic Club dock, and a few months ago he commenced the erection of a large brick factory near the same place. The main cause of his failure is ascribed to the bridge contract, as unadjusted matters with the parties who furnished him the steel caused a pressure on his regular business, and large improvements on his property helped to increase the load he was carrying. According to Bradstreet's report, his contract with Anderson & Co., of Pittsburg, who supplied the steel for the bridge wire, was that all the steel which did not fully meet the requirements of the contract with the bridge company should be laid aside, and the result was, in selecting for the bridge use, after the contract had been completed, there remained about 200,000 worth of this steel. This rejected steel was sent to Brooklyn by the Pittsburg firm and stored there, involving much expense in carriage and working it over. The bridge company paid the amount of their contract to Mr. Haigh, who was, however, burdened with this extra load of steel, but for which he would have made 10 per cent. on his contract with the bridge company. The improvements on his factories amounted to $50,000; these were made in anticipation of increased business, but he was unable to turn out the contracts as fast as anticipated. The indebtedness to the Pittsburg firm is reported as about $120,000. Some creditors recently pressed him for their claims and on Saturday he consulted with several of the largest creditors, and they advised him to make an assignment, which he did yesterday against his own wishes, William R. Foster being the Assignee. No preferences are known, as Mr. Haigh was to pay all the creditors in full, and for that purpose it was thought best by them that the assignment should be made now. The total liabilities, including real estate mortgages, are reported at $300,000, while the nominal assets are $450,000. His assets consist of 700 tons of iron and steel, Morrisania machinery, steel and wire on hand, and open accounts. The Brooklyn factory and plant is valued at $100,000, mortgaged for $15,000; the Morrisania property was estimated at $200,000, mortgaged for $90,000. Business will continue without interruption, as the creditors are favorable to a settlement, and expect Mr. Haigh to arrisage his affairs if allowed time.

THE CENTAL SYSTEM AGAIN.

At an informal meeting of the grain trade after the last call yesterday on the Produce Exchange, the resolutions passed by the Chicago Board of Trade relative to the cental system, and already published, were read. Mr. Leonard Harleston said he would like to make a motion for the appointment of a committee of three to confer with the Board of Managers, with a view to obtaining relief from the operation of the system. He thought the board were now disposed to grant the necessary relief if the matter were properly placed before them. Mr. J. H. Herrick, Chairman of the Grain Committee, said he was still of the opinion that he had not the constitutional right to put such a motion at an informal meeting. He advised that the matter be postponed until a formal meeting could be called, saying that a good attendance is expected at such a meeting would carry more weight. His advice was taken, and a call was issued for a meeting to be held to-morrow for the purpose of taking the desired action.

A PHILADELPHIAN'S SACHEL.

Charles M. Sheridan, a lad of 19 years, living at No. 56 West-street, was engaged on Dec. 23 to carry a parcel-bag over the Dockstreet Ferry for a lady passenger. While in the ferry-house, he saw a gentleman's satchel lying on the floor, and stole it. It was the property of Lincoln MacVeagh, who was on his way to Philadelphia. As soon as he discovered the loss, MacVeagh notified the Police. Sheridan pawned the contents of the satchel in this City and Jersey City, and when, on Friday last, detectives arrested him, he confessed his guilt and took Detective Fogarty to the shops in which he had pledged the stolen property. MacVeagh was notified of the recovery of the goods and he came on from Philadelphia, and yesterday preferred a charge of grand larceny against Sheridan before Justice Morgan, in the Tombs Police Court. The prisoner confessed his guilt. He declared that he had never committed a theft before, and had taken the satchel because he was out of work and had no means of support. Justice Morgan committed him in default of $300 bail to await trial to-day in the Special Sessions.

THE NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY.

RECEIVER BEST'S REPLY TO THE CHARGES MADE BY MR. M'DOWELL.

Mr. William J. Best, Receiver of the National Trust Company, yesterday issued an address to the stockholders in reply to the circular of William O. McDowell, reference to which was made in Sunday's TIMES. In it he says:

"The William O. McDowell who prefers these charges is not a stockholder of the National Trust Company, nor do the books of the company show that he ever owned any of its stock. Nearly a year ago charges in all respects similar to the above were circulated by Mr. McDowell. Meetings of stockholders were held at his office, but the stockholders decided against him. Since then he has made many ineffectual attempts to induce me to sell him a large lot of railroad bonds, the property of the Trust Company. During the past four or five weeks he has sent to my office at least a half-dozen times upon this errand. Probably his failure to obtain these securities is the cause of the present attack. A few words as to his latest circulars.

"The most audacious of Mr. McDowell's allegations is that the company was wrecked by Receiver Best and the Directors who secured his appointment. It is only necessary to say in reply that my appointment was first suggested by the late Hon. William F. Allen, one of the Judges of the Court of Appeals of the State of New-York, who also signed the petition asking my appointment. Every sale of securities was made under the immediate orders of and approved by the Supreme Court, and were so made for the purpose of paying the creditors and depositors the amounts due them by the company. All my transactions as Receiver have been examined and passed as correct by Referees appointed by that court upon notice, and their report and my accounts have in all respects been approved and confirmed by the court. All the remaining assets, both cash and bonds, are exactly where that court directed me to place them in the United States Trust Company. Neither of my bondsmen is now or ever has been 'in bankruptcy or insolvent.' On the contrary, each one is good for several times the sum in which he justified. The delay in paying dividends to stockholders is caused by litigations involving nearly all of the assets which remain. Everything possible has been done, both by my counsel and myself, to hasten the trial and final determination of these cases. As soon as this shall have been done, a few weeks will suffice to close up the affairs of the company.

"I shall be pleased to have the court order a Referee to take evidence of the present condition of the assets in the hands of the Receiver, but will oppose the granting of an order directing the remaining assets to be sold at public auction. Mr. McDowell knows that these assets are tied up by litigations which had their origin long anterior to the failure of the Trust Company, and until these questions are decided these assets cannot be sold or disposed of.

"Fortunately, Mr. McDowell's standing and veracity are well known. He is the person whom the Hon. Abram S. Hewitt, more than a year ago, branded as a black-mailer, a charge from which he has not yet freed himself."

Mr. Best says that the allusion to the bankruptcy of his sureties was probably based on the failure last year of Nathaniel J. Burchill, who was one of his original bondsmen. Mr. Best, however, immediately obtained another surety, as Mr. McDowell might have learned had he searched the court records before putting forth his accusations.

NEW-JERSEY DIVORCES.

A MAN UNWILLINGLY REUNITED TO HIS FORMER WIFE.

Chancellor Runyon, of New-Jersey, has set aside the decree of divorce granted three or four years ago against Mrs. Mary Verrinder at the suit of her husband, James N. G. Verrinder. Verrinder is a son of City Missionary Verrinder, of Jersey City. He was married by his father to Mary, his wife, several years ago. Mary was unable to read or write, and it is said that she had been, before her marriage, employed by the Verrinder family as a servant. Her husband and herself lived together happily enough for six or seven years, and two children were born to them. Eventually her husband began to neglect his family, and finally absented himself frequently and for long periods from his home. Mrs. Verrinder went before Judge Chambers and began proceedings to compel him to provide for her and the children. Her husband produced in his defense, a decree of divorce granted him a year earlier. Mrs. Verrinder could not remember that any papers had ever been served upon her; but after taxing her recollection, she did recall the fact that Verrinder's brother Arnold had handed her a paper, but accompanied the service with a statement that it was "only one of Jim's freaks," and did not amount to anything. When her counsel searched the records he discovered that the evidence at the divorce proceedings charged her with undue intimacy with a man named Leonard. All attempts to find out who Leonard was proved unavailing. Mrs. Verrinder charged that the divorce was the result of a conspiracy, and prayed the Court of Chancery to reopen the decree. The court opened the decree, and allowed Mrs. Verrinder to put in an answer to her husband's complaint. The husband's suit for divorce was tried over again, and the Court of Chancery yesterday refused to grant a new decree.

Verrinder and his wife had accumulated money enough to purchase a house on Jersey City Heights. Before the divorce proceedings were commenced he induced her to join with him in the execution of a mortgage upon the property. The mortgage was afterward foreclosed, and the property passed through his brother's hands back into her husband's after the decree of divorce had been granted. When she secured the decree, her husband married a woman named Brown. His brother Arnold married her sister. Mrs. Verrinder will now commence proceedings to secure a divorce from her husband. He is employed in Wallstreak, has a good income, and lives with his second wife in Brooklyn.

AN OHIO MYSTERY.

TRYING TO FIND A CLUE TO THE IDENTITY OF A MURDERED MAN.

A postal card, on which was written the following information, was received yesterday by Superintendent Walling, who, although unable to identify the man referred to, hopes that if his friends or relatives are in New-York or its neighborhood they will communicate with him:

FREMONT, Ohio, Dec. 20, 1879.

DEAR SIR: The cut on the opposite side is a good picture of the corpse of an unknown stranger who was found in a lonely locality near Fremont, Ohio, on the morning of the 22d day of May, 1878, upon whom a Coroner's verdict of suicide was rendered, in accordance with the testimony then produced. Since then the fact has been developed that, instead of suicide, it was a premeditated, cold-blooded murder for the purpose of robbery, which was successfully accomplished. The guilty parties have been detected and arrested, and are committed to jail awaiting final trial. Description of deceased: Aged 30 to 35 years, 5 feet 9 inches high, rather sandy complexion, weight about 150 to 160 pounds, brown hair, rather of a reddish cast; heavy, reddish, sandy skin whiskers and mustache. There was a small, evidently an old scar, above the right eye, on the forehead, and a scar on the right side, apparently the effect of a blister. Had three rather large upper front teeth, with considerable space between the two largest; the rest of upper teeth medium size, with right eye-tooth broken off; lower teeth small, even, and very regular in size; short neck, round face, small hands well shaped, with dark English worsted goods, fruit cloth vest and pantaloons, clean white shirt, clean underclothing, shoes with blue lining. There was taken from the deceased a large gold hunting-case American watch and gold chain, (owner's name and number scratched out by the murderers,) a leather pocket-book, containing considerable money, notes, drafts, and receipts; these were also destroyed by the murderers. The deceased is supposed to have been a tailor by trade looking for a location to go into business.

Any information as to his identity will be thankfully received.

JOHN T. GARVER,
Prosecuting Attorney, Fremont, Ohio.

MR. SEWARD'S JAW.

A QUEER SUIT GROWING OUT OF IT—DEFENDANT'S DEMURRER SUSTAINED.

A writer in the present number of the New-York Medical Journal states that while the late Secretary William H. Seward was traveling around the world, after the attempt to assassinate him was made, he met him in Yokohama, Japan, and examined him professionally. The result of the examination, he stated, was the discovery that Mr. Seward's jaw, which had been injured by the assassin, was in a bad condition, and could not be used for masticating food. Soon after the attempt was made to kill Mr. Seward, an operation was performed on his injured jaw by Dr. Thomas B. Gunning. It was considered a very successful bit of surgical work, and Dr. Gunning gained much professional repute from it. He considered himself agrieved by the publication in the Medical Journal, and brought a libel suit against William H. Appleton, the publisher of the Journal. He claimed that his operation was successful, and that the statements of the writer on "Gun-shot Wounds" were false, and had damaged him in the sum of $25,000. Mr. Douglas Campbell, as counsel for the defendant, presented a demurrer to the complaint yesterday, before Judge Van Hoesen, in Common Pleas Special Term. The demurrer asserted that there was not a sufficient cause of action, in that Dr. Gunning's name was not mentioned in the article, and that no charge of incompetency was made against the surgeon who performed the original operation on Mr. Seward's jaw. As the plaintiff's attorney, Mr. John B. Crowley, did not appear to oppose it, Judge Van Hoesen sustained the demurrer.

IRISH RELIEF MEETING IN NEWARK.

A mass-meeting of Irish citizens was held last evening in the Newark (N. J.) Opera-house, to devise means for the relief of the sufferers in Ireland. Mayor Henry J. Yates presided, and the Vice-Presidents were one from each ward, all prominent Irish citizens. Speeches were made by the Very Rev. Vicar-General George H. Doane, and the Rev. Counselor Parker, the Rev. Dr. Rainbout, and others. A committee, consisting of nine prominent Irish citizens, was appointed to raise subscriptions for the relief fund. The employes of G. Negrini & Co. raised $2564, and three gentlemen contributed $100 each on the spot.

MISCELLANEOUS CITY NEWS

THE LATE RECORDER.

RESOLUTIONS BY THE SINKING FUND COMMISSION—WHO WILL SUCCEED HIM?

The Board of Sinking Fund Commissioners, consisting of Mayor Cooper, Controller Kelly, Chamberlain Tappen, and Mr. Nicholas Haughton, the Chairman of the Aldermanic Committee on Finance, met yesterday for the purpose of taking appropriate action on the death of their late fellow-member, Recorder Hackett. The following resolutions were submitted by the Mayor and Chamberlain, who were previously appointed as a committee to draft them:

Whereas, By the death of the Hon. John K. Hackett, the Recorder of this City, on Friday, the 26th inst., the Board of Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, who have lost a member who, since 1866, has faithfully and efficiently performed the duties of his office; and,

Whereas, We desire to place on record our high appreciation of the sterling qualities of our late associate as a public officer, and our recognition of his faithful services to the City of New-York; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we deeply regret the death of our late associate, and that we tender to his widow and family our heartfelt sympathy and condolence in their bereavement and affliction.

Resolved, That as a mark of our respect for the memory of the deceased, the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund will attend the funeral in a body, at 10 A. M. to-morrow.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Board be directed to transmit to the widow of the deceased a copy of these resolutions, and that they be entered in full on the minutes.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The Board of Aldermen will meet to-day and pass resolutions of condolence on the death of the Recorder. The three parties in the board—representing, respectively, Tammany, Anti-Tammany, and the Republicans—are divided upon the question of who shall be selected as a candidate to succeed the late Recorder. Tammany men, according to appearances, await orders from their chief, Mr. John Kelly, and the Republicans, through Alderman Morris, have expressed themselves in favor of giving the position to Assistant District Attorney Daniel G. Rollins. It is said that what Gen. Arnold has not yet used his influence in behalf of any candidate, Mr. Rollins is not objectionable to him. The Anti-Tammany Aldermen, who have no leader, speak independently on the subject. They claim that the late Recorder was a Democrat and should be succeeded by one, and that they are ready to join hands with their Tammany colleagues to prevent the election either of a Republican or of Mr. Frederick Smyth, who is understood to be Mr. Kelly's choice for the place. As 12 votes are necessary to elect a candidate, the nine Tammany Aldermen will require three more votes to accomplish that object, and they must look for them from their Republican or Anti-Tammany associates, but it is not at present considered likely that the Republicans will abandon a candidate belonging to their own party, and support one who has been named by the Tammany chief. There was a story circulated yesterday that the Republican Aldermen would not vote for a Democrat to succeed the late Recorder under any circumstances, and that their refusal to do so would probably result in an alliance between their Anti-Tammany and Tammany colleagues. But a union between the two Democratic factions in the board, if ever made, would be merely nominal, because they look upon each other, if not with absolute contempt, at least with suspicion.

It is said by some Republicans who frequent the City Hall that if a member of their party is not selected to succeed the late Recorder, a bill will probably be introduced in the Legislature giving the Governor the power to appoint a person to serve out the unexpired term of Mr. Hackett. They claim the office for a Republican, because their party entered into the political combination of 1875 to support the late Recorder.

THE PARNELL COMMITTEE.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE IRISH AGITATOR'S RECEPTION.

The Executive Committee appointed to make arrangements for the reception of Charles Stewart Parnell, member of Parliament, on his arrival in this country, met last evening in Room No. 24 Cooper Union to complete as far as possible their arrangements. Judge Alker, of the Marine Court, presided, and Dr. Phillip Donlin acted as Secretary. Mr. Charles O'Rourke, Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that he had received subscriptions to the amount of $634 78. Thomas R. Bannerman, from the Committee on Steamer, reported that he with others had waited upon Collector Merritt, who had promised them the use of the revenue cutter to convey the Reception Committee down the Bay to meet the steamer. The report was accepted, and the committee adjourned, subject to the call of the Chair. Room No. 118, Astor House, has been secured for the head-quarters of the committee.

Immediately after the adjournment of the Executive Committee, the Reception Committee was called to order. In the absence of Mr. John E. Develin, Gen. Martin T. McMahon was made temporary Chairman. Some discussion was had in regard to the selection of a hotel for the public reception of Mr. Parnell after his arrival in the City. It was finally decided to leave that matter subject to the wishes of Mr. Parnell, although the sentiment was manifestly in favor of the Fifth-Avenue Hotel. Owing to the fact that it is not yet definitely known when the steamer having Mr. Parnell on board will arrive, it was decided to leave the manner of his reception for future consideration. Should the steamer Servia be signaled in time to pass quarantine before sundown, the committee will meet at the Battery and go down the Bay on the revenue cutter. In that event, the presentation of the address will take place on board the steamer. If, however, the steamer is signaled after 4 o'clock P. M., in which event she would reach quarantine after sundown, she will be detained there until morning, the committee will meet at the Barge Office, at the Battery, at 9 o'clock the next morning, and proceed directly to the Cunard dock, foot of Clarkson-street, from whence Mr. Parnell will be escorted to a hotel, where the reception will take place.

THE STARVING HOWARD.

HE PROVES TO BE AN IMPOSTOR AND IS LOCKED UP.

James Smith, alias Howard, whose story before Justice Flammer, on Christmas Eve, of a consumptive wife and starving child in a miserable attic at No. 172 Mulberry-street, to get bread for whom he had been driven to steal, enlisted the sympathy of the charitable public, appeared in the District Attorney's office yesterday morning to give bail for his appearance when called upon, many prominent citizens having volunteered to become his surety. The story of his alleged sufferings had preceded him to the District Attorney's office, and he was released on his verbal recognizance, the supposition being that the Grand Jury would decline to indict him, and that he would not be called upon to appear for trial. Developments later in the day threw considerable doubt upon the story of the alleged suffering, hard-working man, and his statements were denounced as a tissue of falsehoods. It was found that he was the same man who, in June, 1878, was arraigned, on charge of committing a petty larceny at the office of W. T. Van Zandt, at No. 319 Broadway, for which offense he was sentenced to 18 months in the Penitentiary, and who subsequently unjustly accused Mr. Van Zandt of setting fire to his house on Staten Island. He was also recognized as a man who had received various sums of money by his recital of harrowing tales of sufferings and woe. Mrs. Edward Potter, of the firm of E. Potter & Co., of No. 169 Bleecker-street, for whom Mrs. Howard worked occasionally for the last two years, said, yesterday, that the employes of the firm had raised Christmas, amounting to about $14, for her relief—$10 of which had been given her within a week. And yet the husband stated in the Jefferson Market Court that his starving wife and child had not had a dollar, in two weeks. Mrs. Howard had given her fellow-employes to understand that her husband was on the Island, and would be home on Christmas Eve, and had repeatedly refused to go to a hospital, stating that if she could only hold out until her husband's return, she would then be well provided for. Mr. Potter says that as far as the woman herself was concerned, he believed she was an object of charity.

Detective Owen Haley, of the Broadway Squad, met Howard opposite Grace Church at 3 P. M. yesterday. Howard smiled when Haley recognized him, and entered into conversation. He asked Haley to go to Mr. Theodore Moss and denounce him, but Haley suggested that he would be more manly in him (Howard) to go to Mr. Moss and make a full confession. Just then a stage-driver called to Haley and told him that he was wanted immediately at the District Attorney's office. Haley made an appointment to meet Howard at the corner of Leonard-street and Broadway at 3 P. M., and jumping into a stage, went to the District Attorney's office, where he was handed a warrant for Howard's arrest. Haley met Howard at the rendezvous, arrested him, and took him to Police Head-quarters. He took his arrest very coolly, but when placed in a cell expressed regret at being unable to see his wife before she died. Detective Haley, saw Mrs. Howard last night. She was very low, and was not expected to outlive the night. A letter was found on Howard from his wife, dated Aug. 26, 1876, showing that Howard had been in State Prison several times.

CIRCULATING COUNTERFEIT MONEY.

Giovanni Gurino, the Italian grocer, doing business at No. 36 Baxter-street, who was arrested a few days ago on a charge of dealing in counterfeit coin and paying it out as "small change" over his counter, was arraigned for examination yesterday before United States Commissioner Shields. Detective Hughes, a special officer of the Secret Service force, testified as to various purchases made by him from time to time at the prisoner's store, such purchases consisting of sardines, soap, and other articles. On every occasion he received money in change from the defendant, and each time found in the change so given him a number of counterfeit silver ten-cent and nickel three-cent coins. The witness produced a number of the coins in court. Louis Negrenin, an Italian, formerly employed by Gurino as a clerk, but who left the country in August last, he received, in the money paid him by Gurino, 12 of the spurious ten-cent pieces. On cross-examination, the witness admitted that while he was in Gurino's service he never saw any of the counterfeit money in question, either in the money-drawer or otherwise in Gurino's possession. James Fallon, a blacksmith, testified that the defendant had got a horse shod at his shop. A few days later, the witness called at the defendant's place of business for payment for the shoeing of the horse, and Gurino paid him. Afterward he discovered that among the money so received by him there were 9 counterfeit ten-cent pieces and 16 three-cent pieces. That occurred in November last. Chief Operator Drummond, of the Secret Service Bureau in this City, testified, as an expert, that all the coins in question produced in court were counterfeit. The further examination was adjourned to to-morrow.

COBURN THE PRIZE-FIGHTER.

RUMORS OF A COMMUTATION OF HIS SENTENCE BY GOV. ROBINSON.

It was reported, apparently on good authority, in the City, yesterday, that Gov. Robinson had commuted "Joe" Coburn's term of imprisonment, and that the notorious prize-fighter would be at large within a few weeks. Coburn was arrested on charge of having fired a loaded revolver at Officers Tobias and Jeffreys, of the Twenty-ninth Precinct. He was tried and convicted on one charge, and in the General Sessions, in March, 1877, was sentenced to 10 years in State Prison. Since then the friends of the prisoner have been unremitting in their endeavors to procure his release, and all sorts of sensational stories have been told about the ex-prize-fighter's sufferings. At one time he was represented as being only the merest shadow of his former self; at another time the public were informed that his reason had given way under the harsh treatment he received, and still again the statement was made that he would only be released from imprisonment to become an inmate of a hospital, as he had become a life-long invalid. On July, 1878, an application was made to Gov. Robinson for the pardon of the prisoner; and, as is customary, he wrote to the District Attorney asking for a statement of the facts. Mr. Phelps forwarded the facts, with a copy of the testimony in the case, to the Executive Chamber, and heard nothing more about the matter until the 19th of the present month, when he received a letter from Lawyer Townsend, of Coburn, asking whether he (the District Attorney) would oppose an application for the release of Coburn. Mr. Phelps replied that, in his communication to the Governor in 1878 he had fully set forth the facts of the case, and had nothing further to say in the matter. Nothing further is known at the District Attorney's office in relation to the alleged release of Coburn, but this is nothing unusual, as, in nearly every case, the first intimation the District Attorney receives of the pardon of a prisoner, or commutation of his sentence, is from the announcement in the newspapers. Coburn's friends and relatives emphatically deny the statement that he is to be released, but the writer only a few weeks ago conversed with a discharged convict from Auburn Prison, who stated that Coburn had made all preparations to leave that institution shortly after New Year's, and had already received an entirely new civilian's outfit, including a silk hat. There seems to be no doubt that the Governor has commuted Coburn's sentence, and that before my days have elapsed the notorious criminal will again be at large on the community.

THE POLICE JUSTICES.

ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE COURT OF SPECIAL SESSIONS FOR 1880.

The Board of Police Magistrates met last evening in the Jefferson Market Police Court, all the Justices being present. Justice Murray presiding. The following assignments for the Court of Special Sessions during the coming year were made: Feb. 1 to 15, Justices Kilbreth, Murray, and Smith; 15th to 31st, Justices Flammer, Duffy, and Patterson; Feb. 1 to 15, Justices Bixby, Wandell, and Morgan; 15th to 29th, Justices Wheeler, Smith, and Otterbourg; March 1 to 15, Justices Murray, Patterson, and Kilbreth; 15th to 31st, Justices Duffy, Wandell, and Kilbreth; April 1 to 15, Justices Smith, Morgan, and Wheeler; 15 to 30, Justices Wandell, Otterbourg, and Bixby; May 1 to 15, Justices Morgan, Kilbreth, and Duffy; 15 to 31, Justices Otterbourg, Patterson, and Murray; June 1 to 15, Justices Flammer, Bixby, and Wheeler; 15 to 30, Justices Kilbreth, Otterbourg, and Smith; July 1 to 15, Justices Duffy, Patterson, and Wandell; 15 to 31, Justices Morgan, Smith, and Otterbourg. The following assignment of Clerks was made: George W. Kuster to First District Court; George W. Cooney, Second; C. C. Long, Third; Richard D. Hamilton, Fourth; George W. Oregler, Fifth; William B. Rockwell, Sixth. There was a contest over the last appointment, Justice Wheeler resisting Mr. Rockwell's appointment to the Sixth District and insisting on that of Mr. Hamilton. But as several of the other Justices stoutly asserted their determination not to sit in any court with Mr. Rockwell as Clerk, the appointment was ratified by a vote of 6 to 3. William B. Gorse was transferred as book clerk from the Second to the Third District Court, and R. C. Morgan from the First to the Second. It was reported that many of the clerks or interpreters attached to the courts have been required to take any oath of office, and Justices Otterbourg, Murray, and Smith were appointed a committee to examine into and report upon the law on the subject. George W. Oregler was elected over George W. Cooney as Secretary to the board, for the coming year, by a vote of 8 to 3. Justice Duffy was after six ballots, elected President of the board. The resignation of John Halloran as subpœna-server to the Court of Special Sessions, to take effect on the appointment of his successor, was accepted. A motion by Justice Wheeler to appoint John W. Brown in his place was laid on the table. A letter from St. Ann's Home, at the foot of East Ninetieth-street, offering to take the younger of that class of girls now sent to the House of the Good Shepherd, was received and filed for consideration. The meeting then adjourned.

THE HOSPITAL COLLECTIONS.

Mr. Charles Lanier, Treasurer of the Hospital Fund, received yesterday afternoon the boxes set up in public places, but as their contents consisted chiefly of small change he was unable to count them last night. He acknowledges the following subscriptions in addition to those previously reported:

Amount previously reported	$2,385 07	M. Morgan's Sons	50 00
F. Gogorza's Sons	20 00	D. G. Watts, through New-York Cotton Exchange	10 00
E. S.	5 00	Friend	25 00
Frank Brothers	10 00	National Express Company	50 00
H. Hanse & Co., through New-York Cotton Exchange	10 00	American Express Company	100 00
Olin Harriman	50 00	Edmonds	5 50
Samuel H. Hall	5 00	Employes of C. T. Reynolds & Co	50 00
Edward Hill	10 00	Spencer & Underhill	20 00
Attendants of the Tenement-House for	14 50	George Jones, New York Times	50 00
W. H. S. Wood	10 00	Boerin Deimonico's restaurant, Broadway	19 32
H. G. Deforest	100 00	Deimonico's, Broadway	80 00
G. A. Lawrence	10 00	William Strauss	20 00
S. W. Knevels	10 00	G. Hewitt	5 00
New-York Stock Exchange	1,192 00	Deimonico's, Fifth-avenue	1 00
Employes of Lorillard de St. Esprit	6 97	Deimonico's, Broadway	28 05
Thomas Cook & Son	5 00	New-York Stock Exchange, (additional)	15 00
George C. Clark	25 00	C. T. Wing	10 00
A. W. Paterson	5 00	Boxes at Metropolitan Elevated Railroad Stations	254 82
Wilkinson Brothers	10 00	Boxes at ferry-houses	81 60
A. B. Swords	25 00	Boxes as Rogers, Peet & Co	1 29
F. H. Slade	100 00	Boys, Equitable Life Insurance	1 13
J. E.	50 00	Box at Down-town Association	25
J. Kingsland	5 00	Box at Stevens House	2 10
T. H. French	5 00	Total to date	$6,004 31
F. W. Stevens	100 00		
James Conner	5 00		
H. Sneder	5 00		
Crompton Bros	10 00		
Robert L. Stuart	500 00		
Madison-Square Presbyterian Church	245 83		
Madison-Square Presbyterian Church	100 00		
J. Mesentral	15 00		
Total to date			

The following additional subscriptions were received on the Produce Exchange:

From boxes	$13	E. B. Dougherty	$25
T. M. Mason	5	E. McD. Kirkland	10
P. O. H. McCartan	15		
Total to date			$624

MORE NEW SECURITIES.

The Governing Committee of the Stock Exchange held a special meeting yesterday afternoon, and admitted the following new securities to the list: Climax Mining Company, situated on Fryer Hill, Lake County, Col., the Hon. David A. Wells, President; capital stock 200,000 shares at $2 per share. In regard to this stock, the committee say that they express no opinion in regard to the amount of capitalization or the market price at which it should be quoted. They favored its admission because, first, after careful examination by counsel its title was found to be sound; second, it has been regularly incorporated, and all the provisions of the laws of the States in which the property is located have been complied with; third, it appears to be a legitimate enterprise, as developments have been carried to such a point as to give reasonable assurance of continuance.

Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central 7 per cent. income bonds of 1870, $10,000,000. To be placed under the head of "income bonds," and to be a good delivery only after ratification by the Gallatin National Bank. Iowa City and Western Railway Company first mortgage 7 per cent. bonds, $456,000, guaranteed by the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern Railway Company. To be placed on the regular list under the heading of Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Northern Railway bonds.

CITY AND SUBURBAN NEWS

NEW-YORK.

The Sunday night trips for Boston, via the Fall River Line, have been discontinued for the season.

THE TIMES has received $10 from "A. A. D." for the benefit of the family of William Howard, of No. 172 Mulberry-street. The money has been delivered.

Surrogate Calvin called the motion calendar yesterday in the new Surrogate's court-room for the first time, and disposed of 80 cases before 2 o'clock P. M.

The Chamber of Commerce will hold a special meeting to-day to accept the resignation of Charles H. Marshall as Pilot Commissioner. Mr. Marshall resigns in consequence of his election as Alderman, the law not permitting him to hold both offices.

The Report of a Referee, recommending that a divorce be granted Maria A. Hazard from Oliver P. Hazard, was confirmed by Judge Van Vorst, yesterday, in Supreme Court, Chambers. The ground of the judgment is infidelity on the part of the defendant, who is a well-known sea Captain.

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Western Union Telegraph Company, held yesterday, Mr. J. B. Van Every, formerly auditor of the company, was chosen one of the Vice-Presidents in place of Mr. John Van Horn, resigned. No successor to Mr. Van Every has yet been chosen.

Judge Blatchford, sitting in the United States Circuit Court, will, on Jan. 6 next, take up the calendar of equity cases, to be followed by Judge Wheeler, in continuation of the same calendar, on Jan. 20. On Jan. 13 Judge Shipman will take up the calendar of United States cases triable before a jury.

The Coroner's jury yesterday rendered a verdict in the case of Denis Murphy, the blaster who was killed by the unexpected explosion of a blast at Seventy-third-street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues, on the 27th inst., and recommended the greater care should in future be exercised by the foremen in charge of such operations.

The Board of Police yesterday adopted resolutions consenting to the transfer by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of $5,000 from the "Police fund" to the appropriation for printing, stationery, and blank-books, and of $7,500 from the fund for the alteration and repairs of station-houses to the appropriation for the publication of the *City Record*.

Edward A. Scannell was committed, in the Yorkville Police Court, yesterday, to await the result of the injuries of Henry Wilson, the barber whom he shot in the face last Wednesday morning. Wilson's condition is still considered critical by the Bellevue Hospital physicians. Justice Smith has issued to Capt. Murphy subpœnas for a number of witnesses of the shooting.

Five hundred and thirty-seven immigrants have been landed at Castle Garden since Saturday. The Queen, from Liverpool, brought 202; the Main, from Bremen, 106; the Baltic, from Liverpool, 90; the State of Pennsylvania, from Glasgow, 75, and the P. Caland, from Rotterdam, 64. Among the arrivals by the Queen were 22 more destitute Hungarians from the flooded districts.

The Christian Home for Intemper